

AND

50¢

Aging former prisoners of war race to tell their stories **Page 3**

QUOTE

OF THE DAY

"I got to realize they were enemy skulls and we didn't think that symbol was anything wrong. I did not consider it bad judgment. I did not order them removed."

— Former Liberian President Charles Taylor, speaking at his war crimes trial about displaying enemy skulls at rebel checkpoints

See story on Page 6

TOP CLICKS

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2. Three U.S. POWs added to roster of Hiroshima deaths
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COMING TOMORROW

Perspectives

Too much food, too much interference



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Feeling the heat

Firefighters at Misawa Air Base, Japan, inspect each other's gear before training to put out a blazing aircraft on Thursday.

T.D. FLACK
Stars and Stripes

DOD considers boosting Army size

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

Troop boost would be temporary

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Defense Robert Gates is mulling another major boost in the size of the Army, at least on a temporary basis to help shorten tour lengths and ease the strain on the force.

On Wednesday Pentagon Press secretary Geoff Morrell said Gates is discussing adding up to 30,000 more soldiers to the Army in 2010 to help meet staffing needs during the increased fight in Afghanistan and lingering mission in Iraq.

"I think he obviously has a great

deal of concern about the stress that the Army has been under for a number of years now," Morrell said. "And he understands that his prescription that they reduce their dependence upon stop-loss to keep units intact when they deploy has created additional stress on the force."

On Thursday, at a town hall meeting with troops at Fort Drum in New York, Gates said he expects to make a decision "in the next week" on whether to push for the extra soldiers.

On Tuesday Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., offered an amendment to next year's defense authorization bill allowing the increase in end strength, calling it "a critical first step toward making sure that our military leaders can execute their strategy."

House leaders have already included similar language for 2011 and 2012 in their version of the

military budget bill. Army officials estimate as many as 30,000 of their current 547,000 may be in non-deployable positions, including those in training slots and troops recovering from their combat wounds.

A boost to nearly 580,000 active-duty soldiers would raise the Army's end strength to a level not seen since 1992, when the Army was in the midst of a decade-long drawdown as Congress trimmed military spending.

In 1999 the service hit a recent low of under 480,000 active-duty troops, and in recent years lawmakers have pushed to build the force back up as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have strained both the active-duty and reserve components.

The Army actually hit its new end strength goal of 547,000 earlier this year, two years ahead of schedule. And unlike just a few

years ago, when heavy fighting in Iraq hurt recruiting efforts, the number of new enlistees and soldiers opting for another tour has been ahead of schedule for much of the fiscal year.

Morrell emphasized that no decision has been made yet on whether to add the extra troops. Congress still must give final approval to the amendment and the budget bill.

Earlier this year Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey Jr. said any such increase in the number of active-duty soldiers would need to be just a temporary increase, to help the service through the next few years. Personnel and benefits costs beyond that could hurt other Army budget priorities.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, a 30,000-soldier increase could add between \$2 billion and \$4 billion a year in costs.

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Correction

A July 17 story about the rising yen rate should have identified Yuji Kameoka as an economist at Daiwa Institute of Research.

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Ex-POWs race against time to tell stories

By JAMES HANNAH
The Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — Museums are seeing an increase in donations and oral histories from the swell of former U.S. prisoners of war eager to leave their legacies. But museum officials still worry that too many POWs approaching their late 80s and 90s will go to their graves without publicly telling their stories.

The National Prisoner of War Museum in Andersonville, Ga., said it expects to have a 40 percent increase in artifacts, journals and other donations from former POWs this year compared to last year. Primarily, those contributions are coming from those who fought in World War II.

The number of U.S. POWs in World War II, about 130,000, dwarfs those from other wars. There were approximately 7,000 in the Korean War and about 725 in the Vietnam War. With World War II having ended more than 60 years ago, the total number of U.S. POWs is shrinking fast.

Former POWs disappearing

Aging POWs: The number of former U.S. prisoners of war are top heavy with aging World War II veterans.

Chapters folding: The American Ex-Prisoners of War, an association of former POWs and their families, has lost about 100 chapters over the past five years — primarily because World War II members have died or become physically unable to organize or attend meetings.

Impact: Museums are seeing an increase in donations and histories from POWs and their families, but worry that many will die before publicly sharing their stories.

From The Associated Press

Bob Patrick, director of the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress' American Folklife Center, said many aging POWs are just getting around to publicly telling their tales.

"Some of them will never get around to it," Patrick said. "It's too difficult. Some of them don't want to open the door again."

When POWs returned from World War II, many kept their stories to themselves because they were afraid of being stigmatized, they didn't think there

was anything unique or unusual about their stories or they wanted to forget about the past and move on with their lives.

"Even now," said Alan Marsh, cultural resources specialist at the Andersonville museum, "family members have often not heard the whole story."

Army Air Corps navigator Carl Hedin's plane was shot down over France during World War II, and he was held in a German prison camp for more than two years. Hedin, of Dallas, died in April at

age 86.

Hedin's widow, Gretchen Hedin, said her late husband had been writing a log about his POW experiences — from losing weight for lack of food to organizing camp rallies in which the prisoners would shout in unison for the Americans or Russians to free them.

"He never did finish it," she said, adding that he left some recordings in hopes his granddaughter will do so.

In the meantime, she's donating to the museum her husband's photos of the camp as well as miniature soldiers and other objects carved from camp soap.

"He wanted to inform people about what went on and not just have it forgotten," she said.

The American Ex-Prisoners of War, an Arlington, Texas-based association of former POWs and their families, has lost about 100 chapters over the past five years, shrinking to 250, primarily because World War II members have died or become physically unable to organize or attend meetings,

national adjutant Clydie Morgan said.

Members often speak in public and to schoolchildren, Morgan said.

"We'll lose the presence of someone who went through these experiences," she said.

"The education they hold, the information they have — that's what we're going to miss. There is nothing like the real thing."

Glendale James of the Dayton suburb of Kettering was captured by the Germans and spent six months in work and prison camps. When James, now 84, was freed in 1945, he weighed only 98 pounds.

"They tried to starve you to death," he said.

It was only when James started meeting with fellow former POWs 20 years ago that he began to open up — and his POW-charged nightmares all but disappeared, his wife said.

"He would carry on like he had been beaten," Wanda James said, recalling her husband's nightmares.

Bag of medals left at Vietnam memorial

By ISABELLE DILLS
The Bellingham (Wash.) Herald

BELLINGHAM — No one would have guessed the contents of a brown plastic bag with a camouflage design laid against the Veterans Traveling Tribute, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The bag sat untouched, as are some other items left at the memorial, for almost two days before Shelley Prentice, the co-ordinator of the memorial's visit, finally opened it. When she did, she couldn't believe her eyes.

The bag contained five medals, including an Army Distinguished Service Cross — the nation's second-highest military honor — and a Purple Heart, in their original

cases.

"That's just amazing," Prentice said. "These are the highest medals you can get, short of the ... Medal of Honor."

Medals are occasionally left beside the traveling wall, a smaller replica of the memorial in Washington, D.C. The tradition of leaving items is believed to have begun in 1982 at the wall in D.C. when someone put a Purple Heart in the concrete being poured during the memorial's construction, according to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Web site.

The bag was left at the traveling wall in Bellingham sometime during the night of July 10. The bag included two silver dollars, a tin containing brown cigarettes, lip balm and American flags.

The bag was laid next to the section with a panel dated June 6-7, 1968. Prentice believes they were put there by a veteran and not a family member.

"A family member would pass these down as heirlooms," she said.

A veteran likely left them as a thank you to his fellow servicemen, Prentice said.

A neighbor of Prentice's told her a relative met a Vietnam veteran who mentioned that his whole platoon had been killed during a battle in Vietnam. Prentice wonders if he was the one who left the bag.

None of the items left at the memorial travels with the wall. They are catalogued and sent to a museum. Prentice would like



JEREMY PORTJE, (IOWA) TELEGRAPH HERALD/AP

Veteran Dennis Hanson of Platteville, Wis., searches for names he recognizes while visiting the Vietnam Traveling Tribute in Platteville last week. A bag of medals, including the Army Distinguished Service Cross, was left at the traveling memorial recently.

to make sure the person doesn't want the medals back before they are put under glass.

People with information about the medals can call Shelley Prentice at 360-647-8268.

Verizon customers on base still face slow service

By T.D. FLACK
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Verizon Internet users at Misawa won't see a promised increase in bandwidth — meaning faster service — for months, according to AAFES officials.

In a statement posted on the Misawa Air Base Web site last week, Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials reported that "significant progress has been made toward resolving the remaining service issues" with Verizon's telephone and Internet product for customers living on base.

AAFES has said it's working with the contractor to fix the primary issue, which is a bandwidth that will provide reliable and quick Internet service.

According to last week's statement, "increased capability should be available in the next few months," and Verizon "continues to fine-tune its network topology to increase operational efficiency."

The number of customer complaints filed with Verizon indicates many Misawa residents have reported dissatisfaction with the service since Verizon assumed the contract on March 30, promising up to a 400 percent increase in speed over the previous contractor.

Larry Marshall, an AAFES spokesman in Dallas, said Verizon reported 140 unresolved customer complaints on June 5. He said that number represented 5 percent of Verizon's 2,800 Misawa customers.

Customers such as Rebecca Pate have said their service still can be annoyingly slow, and they often suffer complete outages. Pate said she and others have complained that they can't stay in touch with their deployed loved ones, work on their online college classes or pay their bills through online banks.

Marshall said via e-mail Thursday that he was unable to arrange interviews for this story.

According to the online update, Verizon has streamlined its customer service process and is trying to resolve customer complaints "within three days."

Verizon officials have declined to comment on the customer complaints.

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Former DODDS teacher guilty in rape, sodomy

A former Kubasaki High School science teacher was found guilty Tuesday of raping and sodomizing two former students in Kentucky, according to the Lexington Herald-Leader.

A Fayette County jury deliberated for four hours before finding Jack Russell Hubbard, 61, guilty on four counts of third-degree sodomy and one count of third-degree rape and recommended a sentence of 6½ years, the newspaper reported. Sentencing is set for Aug. 28.

The charges, involving one female and one male student, dated to 1978 and stem from a high-profile sex abuse lawsuit filed against the Fayette County School Board in 2007.

The female student accused the board of ignoring reports that Hubbard and several other teachers and administrators in the school district sexually abused students in the late 1970s and early 1980s. She was awarded \$3.7 million.

Zama, Torii Station legal offices lauded

Two U.S. Army legal offices in the Asia-Pacific region have received the Army Chief of Staff Award for Excellence in Legal Assistance. The Army announced Wednesday that the U.S. Army Japan/1 Corps (Forward) Headquarters Staff Judge Advocate Office at Camp Zama, Japan, and the 10th Support Group Legal Office at Torii Station, Okinawa, received the award.

From staff reports

DOD won't stamp out tobacco downrange

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN
Stars and Stripes

Cigarettes and smokeless tobacco will remain a fixtures in war zones, despite a recent Department of Defense-commissioned study that recommended eliminating tobacco use in the military, a spokesman for Defense Secretary Robert Gates said this week.

Gates believes stemming tobacco could put more unwanted stress on servicemembers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, spokesman Geoff Morrell said Wednesday in Washington, D.C.

"I don't think that he is interested in adding to their stress levels by taking away one of the few outlets they may have to relieve stress — and that may be chewing tobacco or smoking cigarettes," Morrell said during a press briefing.

The remarks highlight the DOD's complicated relationship with tobacco and appear to be a push back against the Institute of Medicine study released in June that criticized the military for wanting to limit use while also selling and distributing cigarettes and smokeless tobacco.

Last year, military exchanges sold at least \$627 million worth of tobacco at installations around the world, according to Navy, Army and Air Force exchange sales figures supplied Thursday.

Morrell said Gates had not read the Institute of Medicine study, which was requested by the DOD and Department of Veterans Affairs after tobacco use increased during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The study recommended tobacco be eliminated across the DOD over 20 years, beginning with a ban on tobacco use among recruits and officer trainees within one year.

Tobacco sales should be curtailed at commissaries and prices should be increased at exchanges to discourage use, the study group recommended.

Morrell said tobacco does cause an "enormous" expense for the military and "there may be things we can try to do to move toward that goal."

The military health system spent \$564 million on smoking-related illnesses in 2006. The VA spent more than \$5 billion in 2005 to treat a common respiratory ailment caused by smoking, according to the Institute of Medicine.

The study also found that smoking and tobacco use have profound negative health effects on servicemembers, from lost productivity to poor hearing and eyesight on the battlefield.

The institute concluded that tobacco use reduces the military's readiness to perform, though withdrawal also has its dangers. For example, tobacco users going through withdrawal have more driving-related accidents, the study found.

Meanwhile, the military reaps profits from the sale of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco — money that is funneled back into community programs and upgrades at military installations.

Stars and Stripes reporter Kevin Baron contributed to this story.
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WingStreet lands at Misawa



T.D. FLACK/Stars and Stripes

Customers check out the menu Thursday at the new WingStreet restaurant at the Misawa Air Base, Japan, food court. The restaurant — co-located with the A&W restaurant — opened Wednesday and offers a variety of chicken wings, according to Jerome Meillillo, Army and Air Force Exchange Service food court manager. Customers can choose from three different spice levels when ordering the buffalo wings. Wings also come in honey barbecue, garlic parmesan, spicy barbecue, Cajun and spicy Asian.

Defense lawyers: Drop terrorism support charge

By CAROL ROSENBERG
McClatchy Newspapers

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — Defense lawyers seized upon a debate inside the Obama administration Wednesday to seek dismissal of a charge of material support for terrorism against an alleged al-Qaida foot soldier accused of plotting attacks against U.S. coalition troops in Afghanistan.

In the seeking the dismissal, military attorneys for Mohammed Kamin, 30, cited a senior Justice Department lawyer's recent Senate testimony that the Obama administration has concluded that the charge is not an appeal-proof war crime. Material support for terrorism is the only charge Kamin faces.

"They cannot ethically proceed on this charge in this forum," argued Navy Lt. Rich Federico, Kamin's Pentagon appointed attorney. "It's appalling. It's just a waste of everyone's time."

The judge did not rule on the spot. The case prosecutor, Navy Lt. Rachel Trest, argued for the status quo while the new administration works to rewrite rules governing military commissions.

At issue was testimony by Assistant Attorney General David Kris, head of the Justice Department's National Security Division. Kris testified that the Justice Department had concluded that while material support for terrorism is a crime in civilian federal court, it was not defined as a violation of the laws of war until Congress passed the Military Commission Act in 2006.

Pentagon prosecutors argue they are proceeding with pre-trial hearings at military commissions under the current manual. Navy Capt. John Murphy, the chief war crimes prosecutor and a former Justice Department attorney, would not be drawn into a discussion of what would happen were the category of crime to be eliminated.

Kamin, brought here in 2004, allegedly got al-Qaida training after U.S. troops invaded Afghanistan and then set up mis-



BRENNAN LINSLEY/AP

A television crew walks Wednesday past a board posted with a courtroom sketch of Canadian detainee Omar Khadr at the Camp Justice U.S. war crimes tribunal compound at Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba.

siles and mines against coalition forces, which never exploded.

Air Force Col. Thomas Cumbie, Kamin's judge, agreed with defense lawyers that the rules of court were still evolving. But he also noted that the category of crime still existed and "it's not a done deal until it's a done deal."

Of the 11 Guantanamo detainees who've been charged here, 10 face material support for terrorism allegations.

Providing material support for terrorism was the only crime that Osama bin Laden's Yemeni driver, Salim Hamdan, was convicted of last year.

"We've always been of the view that [material support] was not a war crime and the conviction should not stand," said Schneider, who has been appealing Hamdan's conviction although his client has returned to his homeland.

Were the Obama administration to withdraw material support as a military commissions crime, he added, "Salim would be exonerated in the sense that he would never have been convicted of anything."

Sept. 11 defendants don't show at Guantanamo trial

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — A pretrial hearing in the Sept. 11 war crimes trial was delayed Thursday when none of the five defendants agreed to attend.

The defendants were apparently protesting a judge's ruling that the accused mastermind of the terrorist attacks and two other men would not be able to speak at the session, which was to focus on preparations for a hearing on whether two of the men are mentally competent to stand trial.

The men have said they intend to serve as their own attorneys and plead guilty. The two who have not yet been deemed mentally competent, Ramzi Bin al Shihb and Mustafa Ahmed al-Hawsawi, have not yet received clearance from the court to represent themselves.

From The Associated Press

U.S. detainees protesting at Bagram center

By HEIDI VOGT

The Associated Press

KABUL — Hundreds of prisoners at the U.S. military's main detention center in Afghanistan are refusing privileges like recreation time and family visits to protest their lack of legal rights, U.S. military and humanitarian officials said.

The U.S. military holds some 600 prisoners at a detention center at Bagram Air Base outside Kabul as "unlawful enemy combatants," a status that the U.S. says does not give them the right to legal representation.

Human rights campaigners have argued that these prisoners should be given the same rights as those at the detention facility at the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The U.S. military argues that Bagram detainees should be treated differently because they are being held in an active theater of war.

Their status is the subject of lawsuits in the United States.

A federal judge ruled in April that the Bagram detainees have the right to challenge their detention in U.S. courts, and the Obama administration has asked a federal appeals court to overturn the decision.

The Bagram detainees' ongoing protest, which began July 1, is over this lack of access to lawyers or independent reviews, said a military official who spoke on condition of anonymity because

he was not authorized to talk about the issue to the media.

Red Cross officials confirmed that they had been asked to halt any family visits and telephone calls. "The detainees told us that they don't want to participate in the family visit program, and we have suspended it until they're ready to resume," said Red Cross spokeswoman Jessica Barry said.

The Red Cross last visited the detention center on July 5, and further visits have been temporarily suspended, though one would

not normally happen for another six weeks, Barry said.

She said she could not comment on the protest, saying only "we are aware that there are tensions in the prison at the moment."

The prisoners have not refused food or water, the military official said.

Jessica Barry
Red Cross

Bagram detainees are told about the reason for their arrest and are allowed to defend themselves at six-month military review sessions, but without outside legal counsel, according to military statements.

Afghan officials said they could not comment on the protest because they have no access to the prison and no information on it.

"The constitution has given us the authority to monitor the condition of prisoners throughout the Afghanistan, and especially the coalition detention centers, but they have refused to let us in," said Mohammad Farid Hamidi, a human rights commissioner.

"The detainees told us that they don't want to participate in the family visit program, and we have suspended it until they're ready to resume."



EMILIO MORENATTI/AP

A U.S. Chinook helicopter overflies Kabul, Afghanistan, on Wednesday. About 4,000 U.S. Marines began operations in Helmand, Afghanistan, this month, seeking to prevent the Taliban from disrupting the country's Aug. 20 presidential ballot.

Taliban threaten to kill captured U.S. soldier

By AMIR SHAH

The Associated Press

KABUL — Local Taliban commanders threatened Thursday to kill a captured American soldier unless the U.S. military stops operations in two districts of southeastern Afghanistan.

The Taliban claimed last week to be holding the soldier, whom the U.S. military earlier described as possibly being in enemy hands.

Abdullah Jalali, a spokesman for Taliban commander Mawlawi Sangin, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Thursday that the soldier was healthy.

He said the soldier would be killed unless the U.S. stops airstrikes in Ghazni province's Giro district and Paktika province's Khoshmand district. Jalali did not explain why the Taliban chose those areas, noting only that Giro has been heavily bombed.

Spokeswoman Capt. Elizabeth Mathias declined to comment on the demands but did say recent operations in Giro district this month did not involve bombings.

Neither district is in Helmand province, where Marines are currently conducting the largest U.S. military operation in Afghanistan since the Taliban were toppled from power in 2001.

Jalali said the final decision about the soldier's fate will be made by Taliban leader Mullah Omar.

The U.S. military has said that the soldier was noticed missing during a routine check of the unit on June 30 and was "believed captured."

The Taliban claimed on its Web site on July 6 that it was holding the soldier.

"Five days ago, a drunken American soldier who had come out of his garrison named Malakh was captured by mujahedeen. ... He is still with mujahedeen," said the report. The short Web message did not elaborate on his whereabouts, nor did it provide any proof such as a photo.

The U.S. military has said it intercepted communications in which insurgents talked about holding an American.

The soldier's body armor and weapon were found on the base, and U.S. defense sources say he "just walked off" post with three Afghans after work. They say they have no explanation for why he left the base. The military has not identified the soldier but say his family has been notified that he is missing.

Also Thursday, the governor of Kandahar province announced that six civilians were killed and 14 were wounded in the airstrike on a village in Shawalikot district. His statement said an investigation is ongoing.

Afghanistan: MRAPs have limited use in off-road terrain

AFGHANISTAN, FROM PAGE 1

Pentagon casualty notices show more than half of U.S. deaths this month were caused by IEDs.

U.S. officials have spent billions researching ways to thwart IEDs in Iraq, but are seeing limited results from that research in Afghanistan.

The Defense Department created a special organization dedicated solely to the task, the Joint IED Defeat Organization, which spent more than \$3 billion and allocated another \$4 billion in fiscal 2008.

Since 2006, the Pentagon has bought 10,000 mine-resistant, ambush protected vehicles with distinctive V-shaped hulls that have proved effective in deflecting ground blasts and protecting troops inside.

Three thousand MRAPs al-

ready have been sent to Afghanistan, Morrell said, with more on the way.

But MRAPs have limited use in Afghanistan's off-road terrain.

Marine Corps Maj. Gen. John F. Kelly, former commander Multi-National Force-West in Iraq, in February called the MRAP "a nearly useless vehicle unless you're on a hard surface road."

In March, Army and Marine Corps officials asked Congress to fund a new, lighter version for Afghanistan.

But members worried fighting would start before the equipment was ready.

The Pentagon commissioned the Oshkosh Corp. on June 30 to build 2,244 copies of a highly-anticipated all-terrain version at a cost of \$1.1 billion.

At that time, Marine Corps

Brig. Gen. Michael Brogan told Stars and Stripes the Oshkosh vehicles were expected to reach Afghanistan in October.

Two days later, Operation Khanjar, a Marine-led offensive into Helmand Province, began.

Gates anticipated U.S. troops would face increased IED attacks when major fighting renewed, Morrell said.

But the secretary felt the region had to be more secure in time for the country's elections next month.

The timeline forced their hand.

"Keep in mind the context here. ... The security situation, particularly in the south, was not conducive for holding free and fair and safe elections in August. Everybody agreed we had to change that dynamic on the ground, and the only way to do

it was to get forces there and get them there fast.

"That said, the secretary long ago knew that the IED threat was emerging and increasing in Afghanistan, and that's why he pushed his people to make sure that we were moving MRAPs to Afghanistan," Morrell said.

The U.S. has shifted intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets from Iraq to Afghanistan to conduct a wider anti-IED effort.

"But more are needed," Morrell said.

E-mail Kevin Baron at:
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IN THE WORLD

Large patrol to enforce Turkish smoking ban

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkey's government is setting up a 4,500-strong team to help enforce an upcoming smoking ban in bars, restaurants and coffeehouses in this country of heavy smokers, a Health Ministry official said Thursday.

On July 19, a year-old ban on indoor public smoking will be widened to include bars, restaurants, and even smoky, hazy village coffeehouses and hookah bars, despite protests from owners who fear it will bring ruin to businesses already suffering from the effects of an economic crisis.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Islamic-rooted government — keen to reduce smoking rates and the effects of second-hand smoke on people's health — has dismissed the protests and calls for the ban to be postponed.

Iceland considering membership in EU

TREYKJAVIK, Iceland — Iceland's buccaneering Viking spirit took a battering last year when the country's banking sector and currency collapsed and the volcanic island became an early casualty of the global economic crisis.

The disaster has forced Icelanders to consider giving up some of the nation's cherished independence and seek the shelter, and restrictions, of European Union membership.

Icelandic lawmakers were debating Thursday whether to apply for membership in the 27-nation EU — and potentially the euro currency — as a way of securing the country's financial future.

338 million Chinese now use the Internet

BEIJING — More people now go online in China than there are people in the United States.

The country's rapid economic growth and expansion of Internet access in more areas has fueled a sharp increase in Internet users, totaling 338 million by the end of June, a government-sanctioned research group said Thursday. The U.S. Census Bureau says the population of the U.S. is just under 307 million.

Internet use on mobile phones has increased 32.1 percent since the beginning of the year to 155 million led by rising use by rural dwellers, the report said.

Egypt: Bus crash kills 12 people near Red Sea

CAIRO — An Egyptian police official says a tour bus carrying mostly Serbians has crashed into a truck on the way to Egypt's Red Sea coast, killing 12 people, including nine tourists.

The official says the accident occurred early Thursday as the bus was heading from the southern city of Qena to the Red Sea coastal town of Safage.

The truck slammed into the bus on a narrow two-lane road that has been the site of several accidents in the past.

From The Associated Press

Eastern Europeans wary of Obama

By VANESSA GERA
The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — A group of prominent former Eastern European leaders wrote to President Barack Obama on Thursday that their region is gripped by anxiety that his efforts to reach out to Russia could lead him to forget their interests.

The 22 former leaders warned U.S. credibility would be damaged if Washington abandons plans for a missile shield, saying they still feel bullied by their giant neighbor and former master. They claimed Russia continues to challenge their sovereignty 20 years after the Cold War's end.

They called missile defense the "thorniest" of current issues in a letter carried on the Web site of the Gazeta Wyborcza newspaper and to be delivered in Washington later Thursday.

The Bush administration reached agreements last year to station interceptor missiles

at a base in Poland and a linked radar base in the Czech Republic. Russia vehemently opposes the plan and Obama is skeptical of it and is undertaking a thorough review.

"Abandoning the program entirely or involving Russia too deeply in it without consulting Poland or the Czech Republic can undermine the credibility of the United States across the whole region," according to the letter signed by ex-leaders from countries once in the Soviet-controlled communist bloc but now NATO and EU members.

The signatories include former presidents Lech Walesa and Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland, Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic, Emil Constantinescu of Romania and Vaira Vike-Freiberga of Latvia. They describe themselves as U.S. allies who remain deeply indebted to America for helping bring down the Iron Curtain.

Many Eastern Europeans today still feel enormous gratitude to U.S. efforts to oppose

their oppressive communist-era regimes, with a particular affection for Ronald Reagan and other Republican leaders. Polish analyst Olaf Osica, with the Natolin European Center think tank in Warsaw, said the region tends to view Democratic administrations with more skepticism, fearful they will favor a "realistic" approach to Russia over the "idealism" of opposing Moscow's strength.

The letter comes days after an Obama visit to Moscow, where he sought to reboot the tense relationship between the U.S. and Russia, including a renewed focus on paring down nuclear stockpiles.

While missile defense came up in the talks, there was no progress and further discussions were put aside for a later date.

Russia has threatened to deploy missiles near Poland if the U.S. pushes ahead with the shield. Obama has attempted to reassure Moscow that the system is geared to tempering a ballistic missile threat from countries like Iran.

What do we know about Kim Jong Il's successor?

By ANDREW HIGGINS
The Washington Post

LIEBEFELD, Switzerland — In August 1998, as famine reached a terrible climax in North Korea, the destitute Asian nation enrolled a shy teen-ager in a Swiss state school. He arrived with a fake name, a collection of genuine, top-of-the-line Nike sneakers and a passion for American basketball.

"We only dreamed about having such shoes. He was wearing them," recalled Nikola Kovacevic, a former schoolmate of the curiously well-heeled North Korean.

Today, the student is a key figure in a puzzle that U.S. and Asian intelligence services are scrambling to solve: Who will lead nuclear-armed North Korea once its gravely ill leader, Kim Jong Il, passes from the scene?

The answer is of vital importance to Washington, which has about 25,000 troops in South Korea, on guard against any resumption of a conflict frozen — but never formally ended — by a Korean War armistice accord in 1953. Who rules North Korea will decide whether Seoul, Tokyo and perhaps even Hawaii risk attack from a nation that has tested two nuclear devices.

North Korea shrouds the biographies of its rulers and their offspring in a fog of fiction and silence. A rare insight into this sealed world is offered by Swiss recollections of the young North Korean.

He was about 17 when he abruptly left in the middle of the



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

A visitor looks at a collage made of pictures of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il at a unification observation post near the border village of Panmunjom on Monday. As the North Korean leader's health deteriorates, speculation about who will succeed him runs high.

school year, apparently to return to Pyongyang.

There are many signs that he may now be the next leader of North Korea — 26-year-old Kim Jong Un, the third and youngest son of Kim Jong Il.

Known as "Pak Un" to his teachers at Liebefeld-Steinholzli Schule, a German-speaking

state school, he was registered as the son of an employee at North Korea's embassy in the nearby city of Bern, Switzerland's capital, according to Ueli Studer, director of education in the local administration.

Maria Micaelo, the mother of one of Pak Un's closest school friends, said the North Korean

teenager once confided to her son, Joao, that his father was the leader of North Korea. She recalled that she dismissed the claim as a fanciful teenage boast but had second thoughts when her son saw pictures of Kim Jong Il on television and told her that he'd seen the same man in a photograph with Pak Un.

Taylor says he OK'd placing skulls at roadblocks

By MIKE CORDER
The Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Former Liberian President Charles Taylor told a war crimes court Thursday he saw nothing wrong with displaying the skulls of slain fighters at roadblocks as his rebel forces swept into the

country in a 1989 revolution.

The invasion of Liberia and his ascent to power was a prelude to Taylor's involvement in the brutal 1991-2002 civil war in neighboring Sierra Leone, for which he is accused of 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The 61-year-old former president conceded

that skulls of Liberian soldiers were used as a symbol of death and displayed at strategic roadblocks in 1980 as a warning to follow the orders of the revolutionaries.

"I got to realize they were enemy skulls and we didn't think that symbol was anything wrong," he said. "I did not consider it bad judgment. I did not order them removed."

IN THE STATES

CIA assassin plan near readiness when terminated

By JOBY WARRICK
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — CIA officials were proposing to activate a plan to train anti-terrorist assassination teams overseas when agency managers brought the secret program to the attention of CIA Director Leon Panetta last month, according to two U.S. officials familiar with the matter.

The plan to kill top al-Qaida leaders, which had been on the agency's backburner for much of the past eight years, was suddenly thrust into the spotlight because of proposals to initiate what one intelligence official called a "somewhat more operational phase." Shortly after learning of the plan, CIA Director Leon Panetta terminated the program and then went to Capitol Hill to brief lawmakers, who had been kept in the dark since 2001.

The Obama administration's top intelligence official, Director of National Intelligence Dennis Blair, Wednesday defended Panetta's decision to cancel the program, which he said had raised serious questions among intelligence officials about its "effectiveness, maturity and the level of control."

But Blair broke with some Democrats in Congress by asserting that the CIA did not violate the law when it failed to inform lawmakers about the secret program until last month. Blair said agency officials may not have been required to notify Congress about the program, though he believes they should have done so.

"It was a judgment call," Blair said in an interview. "We believe in erring on the side of working with the Hill as a partner."

Democratic lawmakers have accused the CIA of deliberately misleading Congress by failing to disclose the program's existence until the briefing by Panetta on June 24. House Democrats, citing an account given by Panetta, say then-Vice President Dick Cheney personally ordered the CIA not to tell Congress about the initiative, which involved a series of

intermittent plans to kill or capture Osama bin Laden and other top al-Qaida leaders using small teams of assassins.

Congressional Democrats this week formally requested documents about the program, and some have called for an investigation into whether the CIA improperly withheld information from oversight committees. Sen. Russell Feingold, D-Wis., a member of the Senate intelligence committee, was among several prominent Democrats who have accused the CIA of violating the law.

He said he had "deep concerns about the program" and had conveyed them to President Obama in a classified letter.

Republicans say the allegations of CIA wrongdoing are false and harmful, and some accused Democrats of raising the issue to deflect attention from recent controversies surrounding House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who was heavily criticized after accusing the agency of lying to Congress about its use of water-

boarding and other harsh interrogation techniques.

The plan to deploy small teams of assassins grew out of the CIA's early efforts to battle al-Qaida after

the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. A secret document known as a "presidential finding" was signed by then-President George W. Bush that same month, granting the agency broad authority to use deadly force against bin Laden as well as other senior members of al-Qaida and other terrorist groups.

The finding imposed no geographical limitations on the agency's actions, and intelligence officials have said that they were not obliged to notify Congress of operations envisaged under the directive.

The program was active in fits and starts, and it was essentially killed in 2004 because it was deemed ineffective, former and current intelligence officials said. It re-emerged briefly in 2005 but remained largely dormant until this year. Two U.S. officials with detailed knowledge of current CIA operations said the agency presented Panetta last month with new plans for moving forward with training for potential members of the assassination teams — activities that would have involved "crossing international boundaries," in the words of a former counterterrorism official briefed on the matter.



Panetta



Pelosi



Blair

NASA scrutinizes shuttle damage



JOHN RAOUX/AP

Space shuttle Endeavour lifts off Wednesday from pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., on a mission to the International Space Station. Engineers on Earth were poring over launch pictures that showed debris breaking off the fuel tank and striking the craft. Astronauts planned to inspect for damage to the shuttle's thermal shielding.

Five police shot, two suspects killed in N.J.

The Associated Press

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Five police officers were shot — two of them critically wounded — in a running gunfight Thursday morning that began during a police stakeout of two armed robbery suspects in New Jersey's second-largest city.

Both suspects were killed in the shootout, which began on the street about 5 a.m. and ended when SWAT officers fought their way into an apartment where the man and woman had taken cover. The assaulting officers were met by shotgun blasts that ripped through the apartment building's walls and doors.

One of the suspects had "some

kind of automatic shotgun," Mayor Jerramiah Healy said. Residents of the complex said they awoke to the sounds of gunfire and police running down their halls.

Marlon Harrison said gunshots echoed off the alley wall outside his second-floor apartment window.

"It was like the Army out there," Harrison said.

Doctors at Jersey City Medical Center said the most seriously injured officer was in full cardiac arrest, with no signs of life, when he arrived for treatment. Doctors had to bring him back to life "five or six times" before they could stabilize him, he said.

Dr. Bruno Molino, the chief of

trauma at Jersey City Medical Center, said the officer received a shotgun blast to the left side of his face and will require reconstructive surgery to repair his jaw, sinus and the area below his eye.

Molino said his team removed two "foreign objects" from the neck of the second officer. He said the next 24 to 48 hours are pivotal for the survival of both men.

"These officers are extremely lucky to be alive," said Molino, 37. "We're very fortunate to be discussing this at all."

The suspects were being sought in connection with an armed robbery last month in which they allegedly shot a man in the abdomen with the same shotgun.

Obama to NAACP: Cooperation a must

By PHILIP ELLIOTT
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is telling the nation's oldest civil rights organization that government, families and neighborhoods must work together to improve their communities.

Obama also planned to urge young people to aspire to surpass their role models and resist the lure of mediocrity during a speech Thursday to the NAACP. White House aides said the president did not intend to introduce new programs or policy, instead striking an inspirational tone on the 100th birthday of the civil rights groups.

Obama plans to take a restrained tone during his evening remarks in lieu of a raucous cel-

ebration of his history-making campaign, officials said before he flew to New York.

Implicit in the appearance, Obama is seeking the backing of the powerful NAACP and its members for his ambitious domestic agenda. For all their shared

interests, White House aides cautioned that the group's leadership had not guaranteed its support of all of Obama's priorities.

Every president since 1909 has visited the NAACP at least once, although some more frequently than others.

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Sotomayor vote expected in early August

By DAVID ESPO AND
JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans cleared the way Thursday for a Senate vote next month to confirm Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor, placing her firmly in line to become the first Hispanic justice.

"I look forward to you getting that vote before we recess in August," said Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., the senior Republican on the Judiciary Committee that is



Sotomayor

holding this week's confirmation hearings.

He spoke as Sotomayor neared the end of three grueling days in the committee's witness chair, time during which she largely sidestepped questions on controversial matters such as abortion and gun control.

Sessions said he would not support any attempt to block a vote on confirmation and didn't believe any other Republican would, either.

Sotomayor, 55, has overwhelm-

ing if not unanimous support among the Senate's 60 Democrats. If confirmed, she would become the first justice appointed by a Democratic president in 15 years.

Sotomayor drew praise from Republicans and Democrats alike as she was wrapping up her time before the committee at the nationally televised hearing.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. described her judicial record as "generally in the mainstream" and said he thought she would keep an open mind on gun rights. Graham, who has said previously he may vote to confirm Sotomayor, said she was "not an activist."

Another Republican, Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, also called Sotomayor's rulings "pretty much in the mainstream," although he said her assertions of impartiality at the hearings were strikingly at odds with her past remarks.

"You appear to be a different person almost in your speeches and in some of the comments that you've made" before the Judiciary panel, Cornyn said.

Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa., told

Sotomayor, "you've done quite an outstanding job as witness," and talked to her as though he were giving a takeaway message to a future justice.

"I look forward to you getting that vote before we recess in August."

Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala.
senior Republican on the Judiciary Committee

ideological battles popping up periodically among the justices, a clear reference to conservatives who hold at least four and sometimes a majority of five votes on key rulings.

Specter raised the question of televising the Supreme Court, a cause he has championed for years. Sotomayor said cameras were allowed in her federal appeals courtroom as part of a pilot study and "my experience has generally been positive."

Justice David Souter has long opposed televising the court's sessions, but his retirement opened the way for her appointment, and possibly a change in the no-camera rule.

Despite her years of judging, Republicans continued to focus more on Sotomayor's writings and speeches. Some said they were

'Perry Mason' and the other Franken

WASHINGTON — Sen. Al Franken got some chuckles at Judge Sonia Sotomayor's confirmation hearing with a cheeky observation about the classic TV show "Perry Mason": "It amazes me that you wanted to become a prosecutor based on the show, because in 'Perry Mason' the prosecutor on that show lost every week" except for one episode.



Franken

Grilled further, Sotomayor couldn't remember which episode the famed defense attorney came up short — and neither could Franken.

We used our crack investigative skills to find the culprit, "The Case of the Deadly Verdict," which aired in 1963. And there's a twist: It stars an actor named Franken.

Who is this other Franken? We called up Stephen Franken, a working actor who most recently starred in "Angels & Demons," to find out.

His bombshell?

"I can tell you Al Franken is my cousin. His father and my father were first cousins."

If we were Perry Mason, we might say that Al Franken should have been more familiar with the episode in question.

Does the actor think the senator can take any lessons from Perry Mason?

"Live a long life and stay in the Senate for a very long time. 'Perry Mason' had a long run and I hope he does, too."

From The Associated Press

still worried she would bring bias and a political agenda to the bench.

"It's muddled, confusing, backtracking on issue after issue," Sessions complained. Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama.

"I frankly am a bit disappointed in the lack of clarity and consistency in her answers."

But Republicans conceded that Sotomayor had not committed any major mistake that might derail her nomination.

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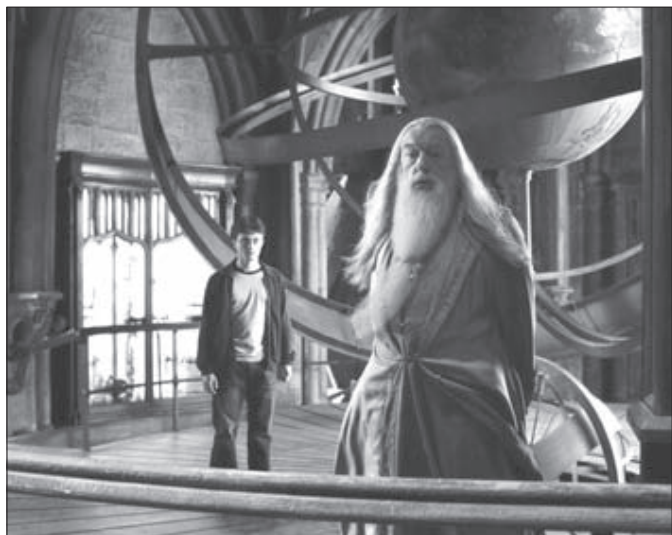
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FACES



Warner Bros. Pictures

Daniel Radcliffe, left, and Michael Gambon bring to life Harry Potter and Hogwarts professor Albus Dumbledore in the film adaptation of "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince." The midnight showings of the movie brought in \$22.2 million, a record-setting amount.

Record-setter

Sixth 'Potter' enchants the box office

"Harry Potter and The Half-Blood Prince" conjured up \$22.2 million in midnight ticket sales at 3,003 locations, according to Warner Bros., putting the popular boy-wizard movie on track for a record-breaking debut Wednesday and through the weekend.

The sixth "Potter" film, which cost more than \$400 million to make, market and release worldwide, shattered the \$18.5-million-record midnight earnings of last year's Batman blockbuster "The Dark Knight," also produced and distributed by Warner Bros. "Half-Blood Prince" could very well beat the all-time domestic record for Wednesday ticket sales of \$62 million generated last month by Paramount Pictures'

"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" and could eclipse its five-day Wednesday-through-Sunday record of \$200.1 million.

It's also possible that the latest "Potter" could topple the \$203.7-million all-time five-day record set by "Dark Knight," which opened on a Friday.

The movie is expected to gross more domestically than its predecessor, "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," which sold \$292 million in tickets. The film grossed more than twice that amount overseas with \$646.2 million.

"Half-Blood Prince" will debut this week in all major international territories.

— Los Angeles Times

Six things to know about 'Potter' No. 6

1. **THE PLAN:** Under orders from Voldemort himself, Slytherin Draco Malfoy must carry out a sinister plot. His mother, Narcissa (Helen McCrory), is terrified. With her twisted sister Bellatrix Lestrange (Helena Bonham Carter) as witness, she has Severus Snape (Alan Rickman) make an unbreakable vow to help.

2. **THE PROFESSOR:** Meet Horace Slughorn, a bit vain, a lover of good food and good company, who reluctantly returns to his old job as Hogwarts' potions master. He's played by Jim Broadbent (the college dean in "Indiana Jones IV," Bridget Jones' dad, an Oscar-winner for "Iris"). Broadbent isn't as portly as his character, so the costume designer had to pad him.



Broadbent as Slughorn

3. **THE PLAY:** Unlike the most recent "Potters," "Half-Blood Prince" is filled with Quidditch, that souped-up soccer

on a broomstick. But flying equipment used in earlier films had to change. "The broomstick rigs we had in the past were all designed for little kids, and now we're dealing with big, strapping lads and lasses," says effects supervisor John Richardson. "Everything had to be redeveloped."

4. **THE PREDATORS:** Fenrir Greyback, a notorious werewolf (played by Dave Legman), terrorizes the countryside for Voldemort. His specialty? Children. Also, beware of Inferi — corpses re-animated by dark magic. Zombies!

5. **THE PAST:** In magical flashbacks, 11-year-old Tom Riddle is played by Hero Fiennes Tiffin — nephew of Ralph Fiennes, who plays the grown-up Riddle, Lord Voldemort. Though his character is gloomy and chilling, Hero is "absolutely the sweetest kid you'd ever want to meet," says director David Yates. Frank Dillane plays 16-year-old Riddle.

6. **THE PASSION:** Romance, jealousy, unrequited love: The teen love triangles get tangled, indeed.

— Sharon Hoffman/The Kansas City Star

Redford marries at German church

A German church says its pastor presided over the wedding between Robert Redford and his German partner, Renate Massfeller, of the St. Catherine Church in Hamburg, said Wednesday that Pastor Frank Engelbrecht presided over the ceremony Saturday between the 72-year-old U.S. actor and artist Sibylle Szaggars at the luxury Louis C. Jacob Hotel.

The Hamburger Abendblatt newspaper said 30 friends and family members attended the service.

The 51-year-old Szaggars is an abstract artist whose work has been exhibited in Britain, Germany, the United States and elsewhere. She moved to Sundance, Utah — where Redford's Sundance Institute is based — in the 1990s, according to her Web site.

Ukraine bans 'Bruno'

Ukraine's Culture Ministry says it has banned Sacha Baron Cohen's new hit movie "Bruno" because it is immoral. The movie is centered around the adventures of a flamboyant gay fashion journalist from Austria. The ministry said Wednesday that Cohen's depictions of sexual organs, homosexual intercourse and language are obscene and improper. Some Austrian officials have spoken out against the film, but have not taken any action against it.

Brad Paisley, Alison Krauss to play White House

Country musicians Brad Paisley and Alison Krauss will play a high-profile gig next week at the White House. A spokeswoman for Paisley said Wednesday that he and Krauss, who had a hit duet a few years ago with "Whiskey Lullaby," will participate in the White House Music Series hosted by First Lady Michelle Obama.

On Tuesday afternoon, they'll help with an educational workshop for 120 middle and high school students from across the country. That night, they'll play in the historic East Room for President Barack Obama and his wife, White House staff and members of Congress.

Michelle Obama launched the series to encourage arts and arts education. It featured jazz last month and will continue in the fall with classical music.

'Secret' Dave Chappelle show draws thousands

The rumor of a secret show by comedian Dave Chappelle turned out to be accurate. Well, the rumor, not the secret.

Thousands of people filled Pioneer Court-house Square in downtown Portland, Ore., late Tuesday and early Wednesday in hopes that what they learned through text message, Twitter, Facebook or word-of-mouth was true.

Chappelle arrived at about 1 a.m. to great applause and a surge of people with their camera phones aloft, The Oregonian news-



AP file

Actor Robert Redford, left, and Sibylle Szaggars, pictured at the Sundance Institute celebration fundraiser in New York last year, were married, according to a German church.



AP file

Brad Paisley, left, and Alison Krauss — famed for their duet, "Whiskey Lullaby" — will reunite at the White House next week.

paper reported. There was only one problem with the free event — a small amplifier left the comic inaudible to most.

It's not clear why Chappelle was in Portland, and what led him to the downtown square.

"I'm not here for money," he told the crowd.

Chappelle is best known for his sketch-comedy program that ran on Comedy Central. In May 2005, he walked away from a \$50 million deal to continue the popular show.

Most people went to the square at the last minute after receiving a text message or other communication. Chappelle, who had no security or entourage, said he expected around 200 people to show — not the thousands who stood shoulder-to-shoulder.

Chappelle at one point announced that someone was going to get a better sound system, and would return in 20 minutes. When the man came back, spectators fed power cords to the edges of the square to plug them in. But apparently there was no power.

Though the show fizzled, the mood remained festive and there were no arrests.

Chappelle left the square shortly after 2 a.m., but not before thanking the crowd and sharing something he learned on his visit: "Don't tell a secret in Portland."

— The Associated Press



HOME MAKERS

Grammy-winning reggaeton stars Wisin, right, and Yandel — in Miami Beach, Fla., on Wednesday — are donating \$25,000 to the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami. The duo from Puerto Rico also announced Wednesday they will donate \$1 from every ticket sold for their U.S. tour this fall to the organization, which provides modest homes to low-income families.

AP

FAITH

Priest tries to bridge racial divide in L.A.

By Ari B. Bloomekatz
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — To those who know it only by reputation, the Nickerson Gardens housing development is a forbidding place, plagued by violence and poverty and ruled by black gangs.

So naturally, Father Peter Banks brought 200 Hispanic parishioners there in December for a posada, a Christmas ritual that recreates Joseph and Mary's search for a place for Jesus to be born.

Banks, pastor of St. Lawrence of Brindisi Church, thought the visit could help burst preconceptions and break down prejudices. His Hispanic congregants might be surprised to learn that violent crime was down at Nickerson, that gangs were not as pervasive as they once were and that, contrary to stereotype, a majority of the residents are Hispanic.

If black residents turned out in decent numbers, the service would be another small step toward mutual understanding in the lower-income neighborhoods south of downtown.

The Hispanic visitors walked briskly through a parking lot and into Nickerson's gym, some nervously glancing over their shoulders. Inside, mariachis in black uniforms and gold ties tuned their violins. A small group of black community leaders helped prepare champurado and chicken tostadas.

"The big struggle is the black and the brown. How do we get them together," Banks said before changing into white robes and leading a prayer service in Spanish. "We can bring them to-

gether with music and food."

The posada drew several hundred people, but they were almost all Hispanics, not the integrated crowd Banks had hoped for. Still, he considered the event a small victory.

"This is major, getting some of our parishioners to come to



Banks

Nickerson because they don't go," he said. "They won't come here. They're afraid."

Banks, 63, a Catholic priest from a tiny Irish village, has become an

unlikely force for racial understanding in Watts. For more than three decades, he's watched as the community changed from predominantly black to predominantly Hispanic. He's seen racial tensions lead to segregation within his own congregation.

His efforts to bridge the divide have been marked by humility, patience and modest expectations. During meals at St. Lawrence, he will ask blacks to serve Hispanics and vice versa. Without fanfare, he lends support, and cash, to people working to curb violence and promote understanding in the neighborhood.

When he realized that blacks and Hispanics shared a passion for gospel music, he made gospel standards a centerpiece of Sunday services.

"He's able to walk between the raindrops," said Oscar Neal, 72, owner of Jordan's Cafe, a neighborhood gathering place.



Ken Hively/Los Angeles Times

The Rev. Peter Banks leads the crowd through song and prayer at Nickerson Gardens housing development in Los Angeles.

In a typical gesture, Banks recently enlisted Michael Wainwright, a black parishioner, to help recruit black students to St. Lawrence's elementary school. Then he asked Wainwright, who runs a job services program in the area, to speak with Hispanic teenagers about how to find work.

"He's so concerned about the community. Not only Catholics but Protestants also. Not only blacks but Latinos, Asians and everybody," Wainwright said. "He walks in the developments ... and he talks to the Spanish people about the importance of getting everyone together. He's very unifying."

In reality, many of Banks' efforts to bring blacks and Hispanics together have ended like the posada at Nickerson Gardens, with less interaction than he would have liked.

"It's a constant struggle," Banks said. "I think it's a misunderstanding and lack of knowledge of each other. The food is different, but when you scratch the surface, we all have the same heart, only one pair of lungs, one liver and a couple of kidneys."

As a seminarian in Ireland, Banks dreamed of serving in Zambia, but the church had other

plans. "You're going to the United States," a superior informed him one day in 1973.

After his plane touched down in Los Angeles, he climbed into the biggest car he had ever ridden in, a Chevrolet.

St. Lawrence, a Spanish-style church, was surrounded by empty lots, a legacy of the 1965 Watts riots. "A barren desert," Banks recalled. "I thought, 'How can the church be in a city without houses around it?'"

Banks, then an associate pastor, said he felt lonely and odd standing in front of black parishioners whose history and culture he knew little about. So he observed, asked questions and gradually educated himself.

All the while, a demographic shift was occurring that would fundamentally change the neighborhood and church. Hispanics — mostly immigrants from Mexico — were pouring in, and several families came to St. Lawrence, looking for a place to pray.

"I felt I would prefer for it to stay all black. It's much easier to work with one culture," he said. "But the reality was they were coming. I feared the unknown. I didn't want to learn a new language. But I thought I can't just let all these people be here and

not do anything."

St. Lawrence held its first Mass in Spanish for about 50 people in 1979, and there were tensions immediately — and not just between blacks and Hispanics. Some older Hispanic parishioners harbored resentment toward the new arrivals. "They called it 'wet back' Mass," Banks said. "I think there was a jealousy there."

The church held its first quinceanera the same year, and Banks went to a mission in Bolivia for three months to learn Spanish.

He left St. Lawrence in the mid-1980s to work at San Lorenzo Seminary in Santa Ynez, near Santa Barbara, and when he returned a decade later, Hispanic immigration had transformed the Watts parish, which has grown from 700 families in the mid-1970s to 3,000 today. More than 90 percent of the congregation is Hispanic.

Banks' position in the church changed too. He would have to "walk between the raindrops."

"I didn't want the blacks to feel that now I was going to abandon them and go over to the Latinos," he said. "So I always had to try to say I'm for all. A child is a child, a hungry person is a hungry person."

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YOUR MONEY

Tricare shift affects 6 million beneficiaries

Six million military health-care beneficiaries, those who live in Tricare's North and South regions, will have new managed care support contractors and claim processors to deal with by April of next year.

In a surprise development, two of three current Tricare contractors — Health Net Federal Services and Humana Military Healthcare Services — lost to rival firms in their bids to handle next-generation support contracts. The three contracts are worth a total of \$55.5 billion over five years.

Support contractors are critical to how beneficiaries perceive benefits. They run Tricare's triple option of managed care (Tricare Prime), preferred provider network (Tricare Extra) and fee-for-service insurance (Tricare Standard). Contractors build and manage provider networks, and control care referrals, enrollment, claims processing and customer service.

Aetna Government Health Plans of Hartford, Conn., will take over from Health Net in the North Region for 3 million beneficiaries in Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa (Rock Island Arsenal area only); Kentucky (except Fort Campbell area); Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri (St. Louis area only); New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

UnitedHealth Military & Veterans Services of Minnetonka, Minn., will take over the South Region from Humana. Its 2.9 million beneficiaries live in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky (Fort Campbell area only), Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina,

Tennessee, and Texas (excluding areas of Western Texas). UnitedHealth also will administer the Continued Health Care Benefit Program, which provides premium-based transition health coverage to beneficiaries who lose military benefits.

MILITARY UPDATE Tom Philpott

TriWest Healthcare Alliance of Phoenix, Ariz., will remain Tricare's support contractor for 2.7 million beneficiaries in the West Region.

It won't be known for another week or two whether losing bidders will file official protests. Barring any legal delays, health care delivery under the new contracts will begin April 1 after a 10-month transition.

Joyce Wessel Raezer, director of government relations for the National Military Family Association (NMFA), said this dramatic shift in contractors, affecting two-thirds of beneficiaries, was unexpected and creates uncertainties in a military community already under enormous stress.

"We were thinking maybe one incumbent would go, because you don't want to have such big contracts in a small group [of firms] forever. But the idea that two would go? Looking at how this might affect military families, I'm a little nervous," Raezer said.

Under current contracts, the Tricare system "matured and became a source of stability in a very unstable time," Raezer said. Any big complaints today involve base clinics and hospitals, "not the contractor side," she added.

Tricare officials say the new contracts will ensure a smooth transition with no decline in quality of care or services. Military treatment facilities will still be the center of the system, the first choice for patient care. But incentives are designed to improve contractor performance, the quality of clinical care and disease management, and encourage cost efficiencies.

Tricare Prime and Extra still will be available in the areas surrounding existing military treatment facilities and at designated base-closure areas. However, managed care networks now run more than 40 miles from a military treatment facility are expected to disappear.

"We knew there weren't going to be as many Prime Service Areas," said Raezer.

This shouldn't impact active-duty families who still will have access to Tricare Prime Remote benefits. A greater concern with turnover in contractors, she said, will be ensuring that change orders to current contracts that help the "most vulnerable" — wounded warriors, special needs children and chronically ill patients — don't fall away in the transition.

"And every contractor has developed some sort of system to support wounded servicemembers in their region," said Raezer. "A lot of these initiatives weren't in the RFP" — Request for Proposal — that Aetna and UnitedHealth answered to win their contracts. So will these changes survive?

"I'm not saying they can't do it but it needs a lot of attention at a very high level in the Department of Defense and a lot of coordination," she said.

For more information on the new contracts, go to: www.Tricare.mil/t3contracts

To comment, e-mail milupdate@aol.com, write to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA, 20120-1111 or visit: www.militaryupdate.com

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY											
INDEXES											
52-week		Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk	High	Low	Dow Jones	Industrial
11,867.11	6,469.95	Dow Jones Industrial	8,616.21	+256.72	+3.07	-1.83	-23.34	5,293.41	2,134.21	Dow Jones Transportation	3,246.99
521.69	288.66	Dow Jones Utilities	361.66	+7.21	+2.03	-2.45	-27.29	8,633.14	4,181.75	NASDAQ Composite	5,993.16
2,189.30	1,130.47	Amex Index	1,607.00	+51.13	+3.29	+14.99	-24.55	2,473.20	1,265.52	Nasdaq Composite	1,862.90
1,313.15	666.79	S&P 500	932.68	+26.84	+2.96	+3.26	-25.11	828.09	397.97	S&P MidCap	582.40
13,382.96	6,772.29	Wilshire 5000	9,561.08	+276.94	+2.98	+5.22	-24.74	764.38	342.59	Russell 2000	515.64
				+19.12	+3.85	+3.24	-24.92				
NYSE											
MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)		Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg	52-wk	High	Low	Dow Jones	Industrial
Citigroup	3789280	3.17	+25	PSCrudeOil	121337	3.74	+29	Intel	1761162	18.05	+1.22
BKofAm	3590941	13.42	+51	GoldStrg	60181	2.19	+23	PwShs QQQ	1442044	36.92	+1.20
SPDR	2035258	93.26	+2.65	Hemisphx	46271	2.10	+09	Cisco	835554	19.81	+1.08
SPDR Fnd	1738338	12.26	+50	NovaGld	22038	4.21	+04	Dell Inc	710202	12.32	+3.35
GenElec	907966	12.24	+60	GranTra	20481	3.58	+23	Microsoft	653982	24.12	+1.01
WellsFargo	896780	25.30	+90	NthgTm	19187	2.29	+11	ETrade	544782	1.28	+0.08
ISHMkt	845967	33.17	+1.69	EldorGld	18925	9.05	+34	ApldMtl	366950	12.31	+6.7
JPMorgCh	821679	36.26	+1.56	BarcGSol	12470	21.98	+96	Oracle	316068	21.51	+8.8
CIT Grp	730183	1.64	+03	Tasseo	12313	1.68	+08	HuntBnk	265584	4.18	+0.9
ProUnif	676381	4.07	+29	Nevsun	12145	1.63	+13	DryShips	262850	6.04	+2.8
AMEX											
MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)		Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg	52-wk	High	Low	Dow Jones	Industrial
Citigroup	3789280	3.17	+25	PSCrudeOil	121337	3.74	+29	Intel	1761162	18.05	+1.22
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NASDAQ											
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Citigroup	3789280	3.17	+25	PSCrudeOil	121337	3.74	+29	Intel	1761162	18.05	+1.22
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ProUnif	676381	4.07	+29	Nevsun	12145	1.63	+13	DryShips	262850	6.04	+2.8

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS					
Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Alliant Technosystem	...	18	80.83	+98	-5.7
Boeing	1.68	14	41.36	+95	-3.1
Computer Sciences	...	6	44.58	+85	+26.9
General Dynamics	1.52	9	54.14	+104	-6.0
General Electric	40	8	12.24	+60	-24.4
Halliburton	36	14	20.78	+96	+14.3
Harris Corp.	80	13	29.55	+97	-17.9
Allied Signal	1.21	9	32.41	+123	-1.3
L-3 Communications	1.40	10	69.72	+126	-5.5
Lockheed Martin	2.28	10	81.25	+106	-3.4
Northrop	1.72	11	46.02	+80	+2.2
Raytheon	1.24	11	44.52	+79	-12.8
Rockwell Intl.	1.16	11	34.35	+166	+6.5
Texas Instruments	.44	23	21.89	+79	+41.0
Textron Inc.	.08	7	10.03	+52	-27.7
United Technologies	1.54	12	53.75	+217	+3

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS			
Name	NAV	Chg.	YTD %Ret.
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	55.72	+1.75	+13.8
Fidelity Spartan: EqlbInv	32.99	+95	+4.8
Fidelity Invest: USGld	10.85	+06	+2.7
Fidelity Invest: Oversea	26.79	+86	+6.8
Fidelity Invest: GroInc	13.50	+41	+3.0
Fidelity Invest: AMgr50	12.13	+18	+13.5
Amer Century Inv: Ultra	16.08	+43	+11.3
Putnam Funds A: GrnA p	9.93	+29	+6.7
AIM Investments A: ChartA p	12.71	+34	+9.5
AIM Investments A: Const p	17.50	+38	+3.9
Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA	23.27	+62	+14.7
DWS Invest: S: GroIncS	11.83	+33	+8.8
Fidelity Advisor T: EdInT	17.28	+57	+3.0
Fidelity Advisor T: GrOpT	22.37	+73	+17.5
DWS Invest: S: Intl Fds	37.53	+138	+8.3
Putnam Funds A: GblEqty p	6.94	+19	+8.9
Lord Abbett A: DevGIA p	12.77	+41	+20.4
Fidelity Advisor T: OverstA	14.10	+46	+5.0
DWS Invest: S: CorpInc	9.92	-03	+4.8

GAS PRICES											
Country		Unleaded		Super unleaded		Super plus		Diesel			
Japan/Okinawa		--		\$2.501		--		\$2.387			

'30' rocks Emmy nominations with 22 bids

By LYNN ELBER
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Tina Fey's satire-rich sitcom, "30 Rock," received a leading 22 Emmy Award nominations Thursday, while the '60s retro series, "Mad Men," led the drama pack with 16 bids.

The shows were honored last year as best comedy and drama and have a chance to repeat the performance at September's awards.

The TV movies "Grey Gardens," with 17 nominations, and "Into the Storm," with 14 nods, were among the front-runners. Chandra Wilson of "Grey Anatomy's" and Jim Parsons of "The Big Bang Theory" helped make the announcement at the TV academy's theater — and both were also nominated.

The number of contenders in series and acting categories were expanded this year, which may have allowed room for some unexpected bids, including a rare best-comedy series nomination for an animated series, "Family Guy."

The series fields are especially crowded, with seven contenders in both drama and comedy categories. Joining "Mad Men" are fellow cable dramas "Big Love," "Breaking Bad," "Damages" and "Dexter." Two network dramas, "House" and "Lost," also made the cut.

Among comedies, the nominees besides "30 Rock" and "Family Guy" include other network series "How I Met Your Mother" and "The Office." Cable contenders include "Entourage," "Flight of the Conchords" and "Weeds."

In announcing that the traditional five nominees would grow to six in top categories, the TV academy noted that a tie could expand the field even more.

Affection was scarce for series that came to an end last season, including long-running medical drama "ER," "Boston Legal" and "Battlestar Galactica."

There was a scattering of nominations among them, but nothing in the marquee categories of acting or best series. Another just-ended series, "The Shield," was shut out.

Vampire saga "True Blood" and its star Anna Paquin, who won a Golden Globe earlier this year, were shut out of the major categories.

See all the nominees at www.emmys.com.

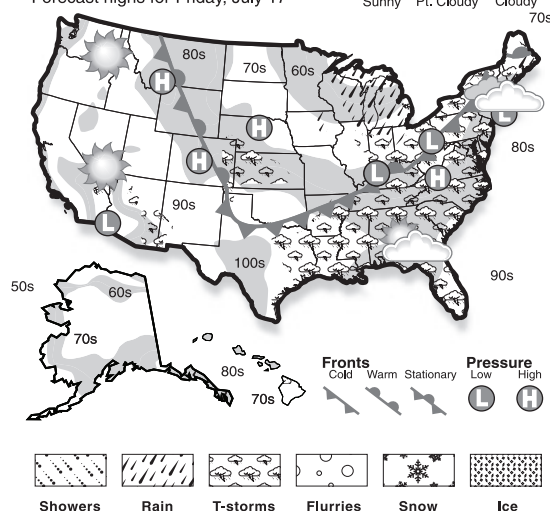


Tina Fey's sitcom "30 Rock" was nominated for 22 Emmys.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Friday, July 17



Storms Spread Through East

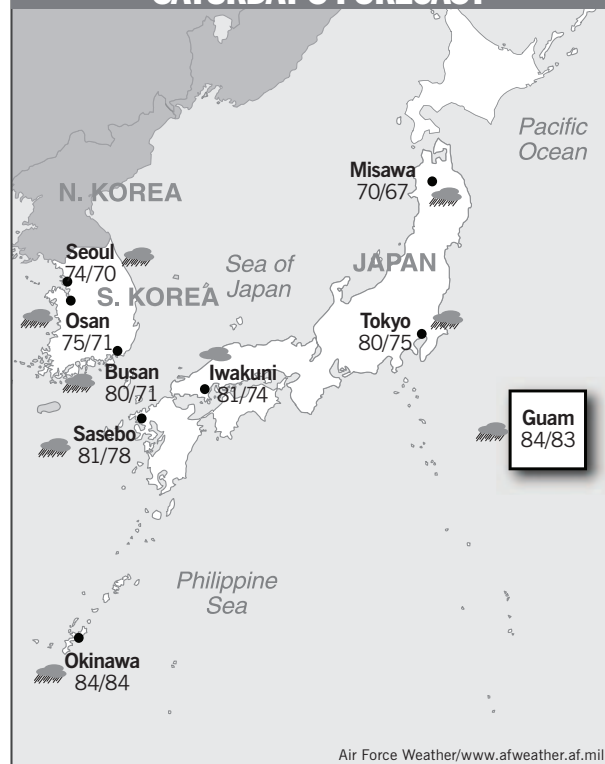
Showers and storms will pop up throughout the East as a front pushes toward the East Coast. Several impulses along this front will heighten instability, yielding to possible severe storms across the Mid-Atlantic. Storms are also expected in the Central Plains.

Weather Underground • AP

Thursday's global temperatures

City Hi Lo Weather	La Paz 60 24 pc
Amsterdam 74 56 rn	Lima 66 64 cdy
Athens 89 75 clr	Lisbon 82 62 clr
Auckland 60 53 rn	London 75 58 rn
Baghdad 102 77 clr	Madrid 92 59 clr
Basra 111 89 pc	Managua 89 75 clr
Bahrain 99 91 clr	Manila 89 78 rn
Bangkok 90 79 pc	Mecca 111 89 clr
Barbados 88 80 rn	Melbourne 54 41 pc
Barcelona 82 74 pc	Mexico City 80 59 pc
Beijing 92 71 clr	Montevideo 51 33 cdy
Beirut 92 77 clr	Montreal 72 51 pc
Belgrade 90 67 clr	Moscow 77 64 rn
Berlin 82 64 pc	Nairobi 79 50 pc
Bermuda 84 75 rn	Nassau 94 80 pc
Bogota 64 44 pc	New Delhi 91 78 rn
Brasilia 80 57 pc	Nice 82 71 rn
Brisbane 68 38 clr	Osaka 91 80 clr
Brussels 75 58 pc	Oslo 70 50 rn
Bucharest 88 57 clr	Panama 88 73 rn
Budapest 93 64 clr	Paris 80 60 pc
Buenos Aires 53 45 rn	Perth 70 44 rn
Calgary 77 77 clr	Prague 79 62 rn
Caracas 87 80 rn	Rio de Janeiro 68 64 rn
Colombo 86 80 rn	Rome 91 69 clr
Copenhagen 77 63 pc	San Jose 80 66 rn
Dahran 113 87 clr	San Juan 90 81 rn
Dhaka 89 81 rn	San Salvador 86 69 rn
Dili 89 66 clr	Santiago 60 43 pc
Dubai 103 87 clr	Sao Paulo 60 55 rn
Dublin 69 45 rn	Sapporo 73 62 rn
Frankfurt 80 64 rn	Seoul 78 68 pc
Geneva 82 66 rn	Singapore 87 72 rn
Guatemala 78 60 pc	Sofia 86 57 pc
Hanoi 95 82 pc	Stockholm 77 51 clr
Harare 55 55 clr	Sydney 62 43 pc
Havana 91 73 rn	Taipei 91 78 pc
Helsinki 73 56 rn	Tegucigalpa 77 68 rn
Hong Kong 93 80 rn	Tehran 102 80 clr
Islamabad 106 78 clr	Tel Aviv 88 75 pc
Istanbul 81 69 pc	Tokyo 89 75 clr
Jakarta 91 71 pc	Turin 68 68 rn
Jerusalem 88 75 pc	Toronto 69 50 rn
Johannesburg 56 30 clr	Tunis 99 76 pc
Kabul 91 62 clr	Valletta 89 69 clr
Kiev 78 62 pc	Vancouver 74 57 pc
Kuala Lumpur 87 75 rn	Vienna 88 67 rn
Kuwait 111 87 clr	Warsaw 86 66 rn
	Zurich 77 62 rn

SATURDAY'S FORECAST



Air Force Weather/www.afweather.af.mil

Thursday's U.S. temperatures

City Hi Lo Precip Weather	Caribou, Maine 70 49 cdy	El Paso 105 80 cdy	Huntsville 91 71 .10 rn	Milwaukee 86 65 cdy	Providence 80 63 cdy	Savannah 87 75 .45 cdy
Abilene, Tex. 103 78 clr	Casper 85 47 clr	Elkins 85 70 .02 cdy	Indianapolis 82 67 .21 cdy	Mpls-St Paul 78 56 cdy	Pueblo 88 59 clr	Seattle 81 59 clr
Akron, Ohio 85 69 cdy	Charleston, S.C. 88 71 cdy	Erie 82 70 cdy	Jackson, Miss. 94 76 rn	Missoula 87 47 clr	Raleigh-Durham 92 74 cdy	Shreveport 103 77 cdy
Albany, N.Y. 80 64 .01 rn	Charleston, W.Va. 85 69 cdy	Eugene 88 54 clr	Jacksonville 93 73 .55 cdy	Mobile 94 75 rn	Rapid City 84 52 .12 cdy	Sioux City 81 60 rn
Albuquerque 98 74 cdy	Charlotte, N.C. 89 73 rn	Evansville 86 74 .60 cdy	Juneau 58 53 .05 rn	Montgomery 93 75 rn	Reno 98 64 clr	Sioux Falls 79 60 .16 cdy
Allentown, Pa. 83 69 cdy	Chattanooga 91 72 .11 rn	Fairbanks 66 47 .04 cdy	Kansas City 86 68 .02 cdy	Nashville 92 70 .10 cdy	Richmond 89 70 .11 cdy	South Bend 86 61 .08 cdy
Amarillo 98 66 .12 cdy	Cheyanne 80 56 clr	Fargo 70 47 clr	Key West 92 84 cdy	New Orleans 91 77 .02 rn	Roanoke 84 68 cdy	Spokane 84 59 clr
Anchorage 67 54 cdy	Chicago 85 64 clr	Flagstaff 86 54 cdy	Knoxville 87 69 1.57 rn	New York City 82 70 rn	Rochester 77 64 .01 cdy	Springfield, Ill. 87 63 .01 cdy
Asheville 83 68 rn	Cincinnati 78 70 cdy	Flint 82 60 cdy	Lake Charles 97 77 rn	Newark 87 71 rn	Rockford 83 57 clr	Springfield, Mo. 89 74 cdy
Atlanta 89 74 rn	Cleveland 85 69 cdy	Fort Smith 100 80 cdy	Lansing 82 60 .01 cdy	Norfolk, Va. 86 73 cdy	Sacramento 102 62 clr	Syracuse 79 62 .01 cdy
Atlantic City 83 72 cdy	Colorado Springs 82 55 .02 clr	Fort Wayne 83 64 cdy	Las Vegas 110 88 cdy	North Platte 82 62 1.14 rn	St Louis 87 70 .09 cdy	Tallahassee 93 74 cdy
Austin 102 72 cdy	Columbia, S.C. 92 74 rn	Fresno 107 74 clr	Lexington 80 72 .13 cdy	Okahoma City 103 74 cdy	St Petersburg 91 82 cdy	Tampa 91 79 cdy
Baltimore 88 69 cdy	Columbus, Ga. 91 74 rn	Goodland 83 63 cdy	Lincoln 86 64 rn	Orlando 93 72 1.35 cdy	St Thomas 92 80 clr	Toledo 86 66 cdy
Baton Rouge 94 74 95 rn	Columbus, Ohio 84 72 cdy	Grand Junction 99 68 clr	Little Rock 95 78 cdy	Paducah 92 69 .84 cdy	Salem, Ore. 89 58 clr	Topeka 85 67 .01 cdy
Billings 83 56 .01 clr	Concord, N.H. 79 54 cdy	Grand Rapids 82 61 .34 cdy	Los Angeles 82 63 cdy	Pendleton 93 59 clr	Salt Lake City 91 64 clr	Tucson 101 81 cdy
Birmingham 93 70 .50 rn	Corpus Christi 98 76 cdy	Great Falls 79 49 clr	Louisville 81 74 .44 cdy	Peoria 87 64 cdy	San Angelo 103 76 clr	Tulsa 102 72 .42 rn
Bismarck 72 48 cdy	Dallas-Ft Worth 103 83 cdy	Green Bay 81 56 mm cdy	Lubbock 99 72 cdy	Philadelphia 87 72 cdy	San Antonio 101 78 clr	Tupelo 93 71 rn
Boise 95 66 clr	Dayton 82 67 cdy	Greensboro, N.C. 86 73 cdy	Macon 95 74 .03 rn	Phoenix 107 92 clr	San Diego 74 67 cdy	Waco 101 78 clr
Boston 82 65 cdy	Daytona Beach 90 74 .37 cdy	Harrisburg 86 68 cdy	Madison 80 57 cdy	Pittsburgh 85 71 cdy	San Francisco 70 51 cdy	Washington, D.C. 88 73 cdy
Bridgeport 81 69 rn	Denver 87 59 clr	Hartford Spfld 82 64 cdy	Medford 98 62 clr	Pocatello 88 49 clr	San Jose 83 57 cdy	W.Palm Beach 92 78 cdy
Brownsville 97 76 cdy	Des Moines 82 62 cdy	Helena 87 52 clr	Memphis 93 73 .40 rn	Portland, Maine 78 55 cdy	San Juan, P.R. 90 82 clr	Wichita 89 68 .16 rn
Buffalo 79 70 cdy	Detroit 85 64 .05 cdy	Honolulu 86 76 .01 cdy	Miami Beach 93 81 .09 cdy	Portland, Ore. 88 63 clr	Santa Fe 99 64 cdy	Wichita Falls 106 77 cdy
Burlington, Vt. 76 58 .06 rn	Duluth 68 50 cdy	Houston 99 79 cdy	Midland-Odessa 101 75 cdy		St Ste Marie 62 55 .54 cdy	Wilkes-Barre 81 66 .03 cdy



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OPINION

Time to 'boldly go' once more – to Mars

By BUZZ ALDRIN

On the spring morning in 1927 when Charles Lindbergh set off alone across the Atlantic Ocean, only a handful of explorer-adventurers were capable of even attempting the feat. Many had tried before Lindbergh's successful flight, but all had failed and many lost their lives in the process. Most people then thought transatlantic travel was an impossible dream. But 40 years later, 20,000 people a day were safely flying the same route that the "Lone Eagle" had voyaged. Transatlantic flight had become routine.

Forty years ago this week, Neil Armstrong, Mike Collins and I began our quarter-million-mile journey through the blackness of space to reach the moon.

Neil and I walked its dusty ancient soil, becoming the first humans to stand upon another world. Yet today, no nation — including our own — is capable of sending anyone beyond Earth's orbit, much less deeper into space.

For the past four years, NASA has been on a path to resume lunar exploration with people, duplicating (in a more complicated fashion) what Neil, Mike and our colleagues did four decades ago. But this approach — called the "Vision for Space Exploration" — is not visionary; nor will it ultimately be successful in restoring American space leadership. Like its Apollo predecessor, this plan will prove to be a dead end littered with broken spacecraft, broken dreams and broken policies.

Instead, I propose a new Unified Space Vision, a plan to ensure American space leadership for the 21st century. It wouldn't require building new rockets from scratch, as current plans do, and it would make maximum use of the capabilities we have without breaking the bank. It is a reasonable and affordable plan — if we again think in visionary terms.

On television and in movies, "Star Trek" showed what could be achieved when we dared to "boldly go where no man has gone before." In real life, I've traveled that path, and I know that with the right goal and support from most Americans, we can boldly

go, again.

A race to the moon is a dead end. While the lunar surface can be used to develop advanced technologies, it is a poor location for homesteading. The moon is a lifeless, barren world, its stark desolation matched by its hostility to all living things. And re-playing the glory days of Apollo will not advance the cause of American space leadership or inspire the support and enthusiasm of the public and the next generation of space explorers.

Now, I am not suggesting that America abandon the moon entirely, only that it forgo a moon-focused race. As the moon should be for all mankind, we should return there as part of an internationally led coalition. Using the landers and heavy-lift boosters developed by our partners, we could test on the moon the tools and equipment that we will need for our ultimate destination: homesteading Mars by way of its moons.

Let the lunar surface be the ultimate global commons while we focus on more distant and sustainable goals to revitalize our space program. Our next generation must think boldly in terms of a goal for the space program: Mars for America's future. I am not suggesting a few visits to plant flags and do photo ops but a journey to make the first homestead in space: an American colony on a new world.

Robotic exploration of Mars has yielded tantalizing clues about what was once a water-soaked planet. Deep beneath the soils of Mars may lie trapped frozen water, possibly with traces of still-extant primitive life forms. Climate change on a vast scale has reshaped Mars. With Earth in the throes of its own climate evolution, human outposts on Mars could be a laboratory to study these changes. And the best way to study Mars is with the hands, eyes and ears of a geologist, first at a moon orbiting Mars and then on the Red Planet's surface.

Mobilizing the space program to focus on a human colony on Mars while at the same time helping our international partners explore the moon on their own would galvanize public support for space exploration and provide a cause to inspire America's

young students. Mars exploration would renew our space industry by opening up technology development to all players, not just the traditional big aerospace contractors. If we avoided the pitfall of aiming solely for the moon, we could be on Mars by the 60th anniversary year of our Apollo 11 flight.

Much has been said recently about the Vision for Space Exploration and the future of the international space station. As we all reflect upon our historic lunar journey and the future of the space program, I challenge America's leaders to think boldly and look beyond the moon. Yes, my vision of "Mars for America" requires bold thinking. But as my friend and Gemini crewmate Jim Lovell has noted, our Apollo days were a time when we did bold things in space to achieve leadership. It is time we were bold again in space.

Buzz Aldrin was the second man to walk on the moon. He served as the Gemini 12 mission pilot in 1966, as well as the lunar module pilot on the Apollo 11 mission in 1969. His book "Magnificent Desolation" was published last month. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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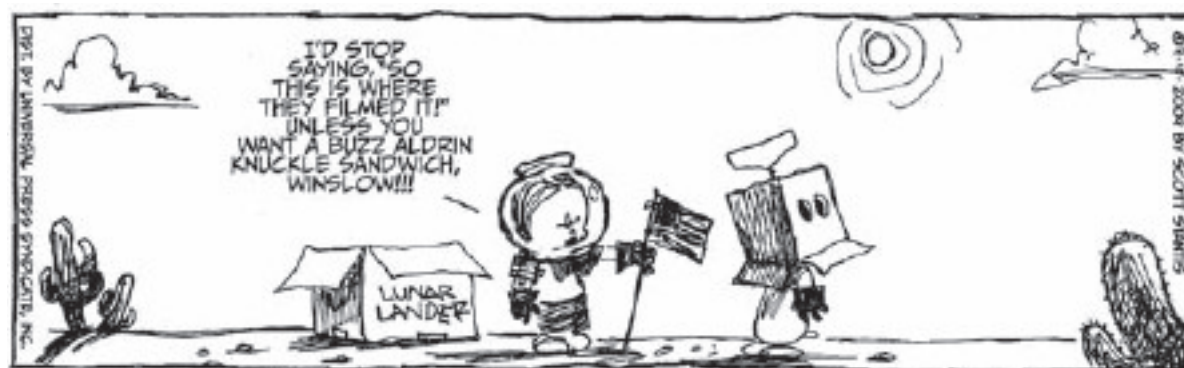
Stars and Stripes
Roppongi
Minato-ku
Tokyo 106-0032

Doonesbury



By GARRY TRUDEAU

Prickly City



By SCOTT STANTIS

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



JOHN ROSE/Scripps Howard



GLENN MCCOY/Universal Press Syndicate



WALT HANDELSMAN/Tribune Media Services



DICK LOCHER/Tribune Media Services



ROBERT ARIAL/United Media

SEC charges lawyers with fraud

WA SEATTLE — The Securities and Exchange Commission has filed civil charges against two Seattle attorneys and a Houston public relations firm, saying they touted a new company's non-existent products to boost its stock price, then netted more than \$1 million by selling shares before the stock collapsed.

The SEC said David M. Otto and Todd Van Siclen used misleading press releases and Web profiles to tout the nonexistent, anti-aging beverages and nutritional supplements of Seattle-based MitoPharm Corp. Also charged were MitoPharm and its chief executive, Pak Peter Cheung, and Houston-based stock promoter Charles Bingham and his company Wall Street PR Inc.

Otto's attorney, Jeffrey B. Coopersmith, said the SEC's "misguided bureaucratic machinery" got its facts wrong.

States ask FCC's OK to jam prison cell phones

SC COLUMBIA — A Southern prison official says correctional leaders from more than two dozen states have signed a petition asking permission to jam cell phone signals inside state penitentiaries and thwart inmates' forbidden phone calls.

South Carolina Corrections Director Jon Ozmint said his petition bears signatures from corrections directors in 25 states and three cities. Ozmint says contraband cell phones allow inmates to communicate and plan other crimes. Inmates in several states have been accused of doing just that.

Under current law, the FCC can allow only federal — not state or local — authorities permission to jam cell phone signals.

Small plane crashes in cranberry bog

MA ROCHESTER — Four people on a small single-engine turboprop plane escaped serious injury when it crashed into a Rochester cranberry bog.

Fire Chief Scott Weigel told The Standard Times of New Bedford the pilot and three passengers suffered bruises and abrasions when the Cessna 172 crash landed into the bog at Great Bear Farms.

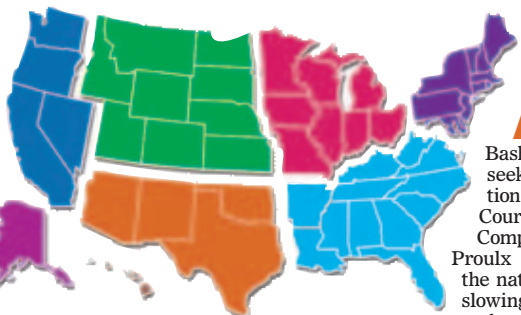
Authorities say the plane, bound for Martha's Vineyard from Nashua, N.H., experienced engine problems. The plane suffered damage to its undercarriage, propeller and nose section.

'Choose Life' license plates see brisk sales

VA NORFOLK — The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles says it's received nearly 600 applications for the state's new "Choose Life" specialty license plate.

Lawmakers approved the plate this year and Gov. Timothy Kaine signed the legislation, over objections by abortion rights advocates. Virginia joins 23 other states that offer the "Choose Life" plate.

Under state law, more than 350 people must sign up for a plate be-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

fore the DMV can produce it. DMV spokeswoman Melanie Stokes said the agency has processed 590 paid applications.

After 7 years, judge rules against teacher

CA LOS ANGELES — A Los Angeles Unified School District special education teacher who has been paid to stay away from classrooms for more than seven years while the district tried to fire him for alleged sexual harassment should be dismissed, a county Superior Court judge has ruled.

Matthew Kim, who formerly taught at Grant High School in the San Fernando Valley, is accused of groping and making inappropriate comments to several students and co-workers. Kim, who was born with cerebral palsy and is confined to a wheelchair, was assigned to a district office in 2002 after the allegations and was paid his full salary and benefits.

The superior court judge ruled that a three-member commission that had recommended Kim be returned to the classroom ignored evidence that Kim was sexually harassing co-workers and students and said the commission was changing "the facts of the case to support its prior decision instead of changing its prior decision to one that is supported by the facts of the case."



Skating out of season

Ice skaters skate around the Polar Ice Galleria skating rink in Houston.

Grocery chain files Chapter 11

AZ PHOENIX — Arizona-based Bashas' grocery chain is seeking Chapter 11 protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

Company President Mike Proulx said a combination of the national credit crisis and slowing growth in Arizona led to the company's decision. He also blamed ongoing friction with a union trying to organize the company's stores.

Chandler-based Bashas' Inc. also announced plans to close 10 stores, resulting in the loss of about 1,000 jobs.

Prosecutors: Jailed evangelist 'married' girls

AR TEXARKANA — Jailed evangelist Tony Alamo "married" the underage girls he allegedly forced into sex, exchanging wedding vows and rings, prosecutors said in pre-trial hearings.

Alamo, 74, has pleaded not guilty to the 10-count federal indictment. FBI agents and Arkansas State Police troopers raided Alamo's 15-acre complex in Fouke on Sept. 20, searching for evidence of child pornography. Agents arrested the evangelist five days later in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Since the Fouke raid, state child-welfare officials have seized 36 children associated with Alamo's ministry.

Comptroller: Rejecting raises will save \$1M

NY NEW YORK — New York City Comptroller William Thompson Jr. says his office will save \$1 million by rejecting raises Mayor Michael Bloomberg approved for nonunion city workers.

The Democratic mayoral candidate says he is forgoing raises for more than 100 people on his staff. Each makes more than \$90,000, and the staffers' average salary tops \$121,000.

Bloomberg announced a 4 percent raise for nearly 7,000 nonunion workers. The nonunion workforce typically gets the same raises as the city's largest union but did not get a boost last year.

Thompson says the city should not give managers raises now because of the struggling economy.

Thompson's \$185,000 salary isn't affected. He accepted a \$25,000 raise through City Council legislation in 2006.

Fuel tanker explodes, brings down overpass

MI HAZEL PARK — An interstate north of Detroit was shut down following a gasoline tanker explosion and overpass collapse.

Flames shot hundreds of feet in the air from the site on Interstate 75 in Hazel Park, about 10 miles north of downtown Detroit.

Michigan State Police Lt. Shannon Sims said the tanker was headed north on I-75 when it exploded beneath the 9 Mile Road overpass.

Half the overpass collapsed onto the northbound lanes of I-75 while the rest remained standing, he said.

Sims said authorities don't yet know what caused the explosion.



Water balloon warrior Emma Williams sprays a water balloon in her face at Pat Mayse Lake, Texas, as part of a lakeside family water balloon fight.



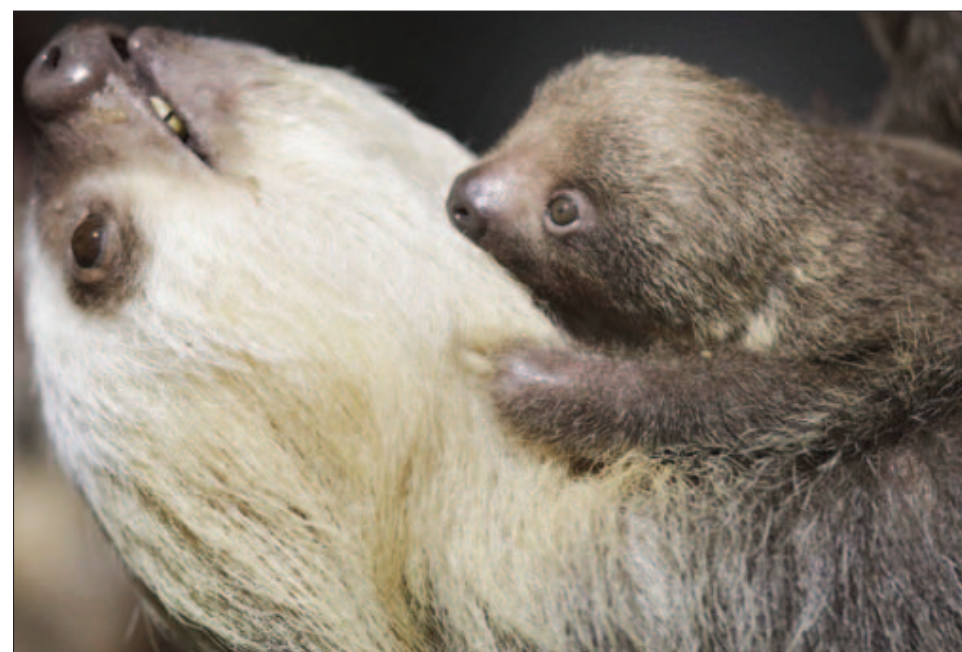
Fans fidelis From left, Marie Heppe, Susan Lynn, Austin Howard and Amy Marston wait in line for the midnight showing of "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" at Willow Knolls 14 theater in Peoria, Ill.



Wet behind the ears Minyak, an Asian elephant, gets a bath from handler Hicham Baslam in Houston. Minyak is part of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.



Traffic that moves with the melody Luis Cruz, 86, of Houston, plays the violin on a Houston street.



Mama's boy ... or girl? A baby Hoffman's two-toed sloth whose sex is not yet known is seen atop its mother, Charlotte, at the Philadelphia Zoo in Philadelphia.



Under the beating sun An Amish farmer works his team of horses in a virtual sea of corn in a field in Troy Township, Ohio.

Zoo CEO sticks to euthanization warning

MA BOSTON — The chief of the Boston area's two major zoos is standing by statements that the facilities would shut down and some animals would have to be euthanized if the Legislature does not restore \$4 million in state funding.

John Linehan, president and chief executive of Zoo New England, told The Boston Globe that the zoos "just couldn't make it."

Linehan, who runs the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston and the Stone Zoo in Stoneham, said as many as 20 percent of the animals would be put down because it is unlikely officials could find new homes for them under current economic circumstances.

Gov. Deval Patrick has said that no animal would be killed or was ever truly threatened with euthanasia.

State reports reduction in air pollutants

TX AUSTIN — State environmental regulators say air quality continues to improve in the Southeast Texas petrochemical complex.

The Air Pollutant Watch List kept by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality consists of Texas areas where levels of certain pollutants reached levels of concern. The agency said in a statement that the levels of one air pollutant, 1,3-butadiene, have fallen 75 percent in Port Neches since 1996 and in Houston since 2004.

The agency statement also said that hydrogen sulfide has been removed from a third area of concern in Beaumont after its levels remained below state standards since 2005.

Stolen car that had 2 children inside found

CA COMPTON — Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies say two small children who were in a car that was stolen outside a Norwalk business have been found and appear to be unharmed.

Authorities say a citizen who heard an Amber Alert for the children recognized the Toyota Scion parked on a Compton street, about three hours after the vehicle was reported stolen. Sheriff's Sgt. David Infante says the 2-year-old girl and 4-year-old boy were left in the car, apparently unharmed. No suspect has been found.

The children's father told detectives he left them in the car with the engine running while he went to run an errand. He said that when he returned two minutes later, the car was gone.

Police: Warehouse fire caused by military flare

WI CUDAHY — Police say a massive fire that gutted part of a southeastern Wisconsin meatpacking plant started when a military flare landed on the roof.

Cudahy police said there's no indication the military fired the flare.

Federal, state and local agencies are offering a \$16,000 reward for information about who may have fired the flare, which ignited the Patrick Cudahy Inc. plant. The blaze lasted more than two days

and caused an estimated \$50 million in damages.

It also prompted a temporary evacuation of thousands of area residents because of the possibility of an ammonia explosion.

Nursing aide charged with abusing patients

VA BURKEVILLE — A former nursing aide has been charged with abusing nine elderly patients at a Nottaway County hospital.

State police said Catherine Ann Harris, 46, was arrested following an investigation that was requested by administrators at the Piedmont Geriatric Hospital in Burkeville. None of the injuries was life-threatening, according to a state police news release.

Harris is free on bond before her trial.

Crews find bodies of 3 missing after mudslide

UT LOGAN — Searchers have recovered the body of the third and final person missing after a mudslide destroyed a northern Utah home.

Officials announced they found the body of 13-year-old Victor Alanis in the rubble and debris.

The bodies of Victor's mother, 43-year-old Evelia Jacqueline Leavey, and sister, 12-year-old Abbey Alanis, were recovered earlier in the day.

The search for Leavey and her children began Saturday afternoon after an avalanche of mud and water swept down a hillside in Logan and buried most of their home.

Fire Department spokeswoman Liz Hunsaker says 15 homes were evacuated after the slide and firefighters had to carry children from some homes.

No one else was reported missing or injured in the slide.

Man gets 4-year jail sentence in lobster heist

NJ MAYS LANDING — A New Jersey man has pleaded guilty to stealing 91 lobster tails from an Atlantic City casino's kitchen by cramming them into his jacket and backpack. He's been sentenced to four years in prison.

Anthony Jones took the frozen lobsters from Bally's Atlantic City in February and tried to sneak them out in his jacket and backpack. A security guard monitoring a surveillance camera noticed his clothes were unusually bulky, and stopped him.

He pleaded guilty to burglary on Friday in deal with prosecutors, who dropped additional charges.

The lobsters, worth \$1,275, were destroyed.

Worker found dead in recycling shredder

CA LOS ANGELES — A warehouse worker has died after getting entangled in a cardboard recycling shredder in Los Angeles.

Fire Department spokesman Devin Gales says paramedics found the man's body still stuck in the machine when they arrived.

The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Horoscope

Many things could happen as the sun and Uranus come into a fortuitous alignment, the effects of which will last through July 21. You might get generous with your hot sauce or outlandish with your decorating scheme. You might rebel against your comforting habits and replace them with uncomfortable, transformational new methods.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JULY 18). You'll put your experiences and education to use as you capitalize on a huge opportunity. August brings fortuitous partnerships and you'll cash in on business well done. November is your chance to go for a position you've had your eye on for years. A stylish change to your living arrangement happens in February. Sagittarius and Taurus adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're not sure whether you want to make someone laugh or nurture their deep and abiding respect for you. You can do both at the same time by understanding the polite boundaries of humor and not taking things too far.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your solitude won't be serious. Alone, you'll behave like a much younger version of yourself. You won't clean up your toys, you might throw a tantrum or sing silly songs with reckless abandon.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be trying to get someone's attention. The top advice you get at a time like this is "be yourself." But which you? You're so diverse, it's hard to know how to act. Wait until you're more relaxed and centered to make a move.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Seize your opportunities, especially the ones that put you way out of your league. You won't regret the mistakes you made, but you might regret the ones you didn't make.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be playing around with people's

perceptions of you. It's one of your favorite pastimes lately. Just when they think they know what they'll get, you change it. You love to keep them guessing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Visit your creative soul mate — the one who knows where you're coming from and inspires you to go places with your ideas. This person crystallizes your thoughts and presents them back to you, polished and gleaming.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). No one is really ordinary, though you may find that you're connecting with people who give you those very results. It's your job to inspire them to dig deeper and bring their own unique qualities to the mix.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Resist making commitments for others without consulting them first. Likewise, let each person speak for himself or herself, even if you think you know what the person is going to say.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will be spending time with someone who speaks frankly and you'll find this person's honesty refreshing in small doses. Tonight, you'll enjoy learning and will make impressive progress in your studies.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Loving and harmonious relationships make it possible for you to be productive doing the things that matter most to you. Take preventative steps to ensure a relationship will be smooth.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're more creative and resourceful than you give yourself credit for being. You will be invigorated by a person who inspires you to think about yourself in different terms.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You attract and are attracted to uplifting people. Someone could mistake your friendly joking around for flirting. No one will get jealous as long as you spread the love and goodwill evenly.

Holiday Mathis



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PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

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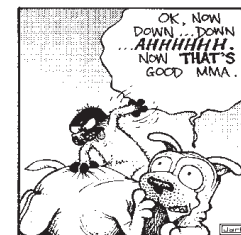
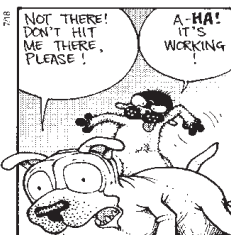
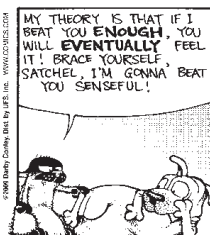
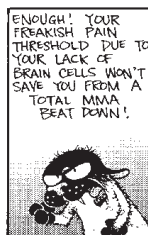
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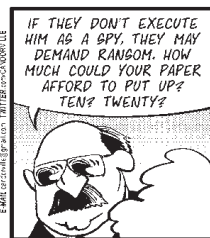
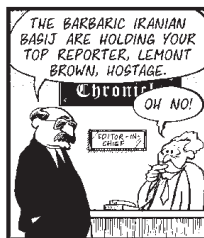
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Get Fuzzy



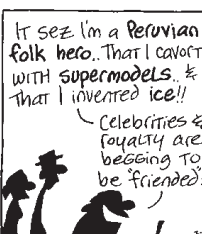
Candorville



Meaning of Lila



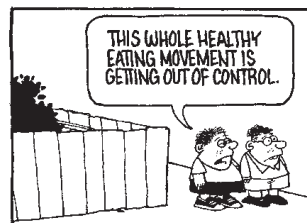
Knight Life



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Dilbert



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Garfield



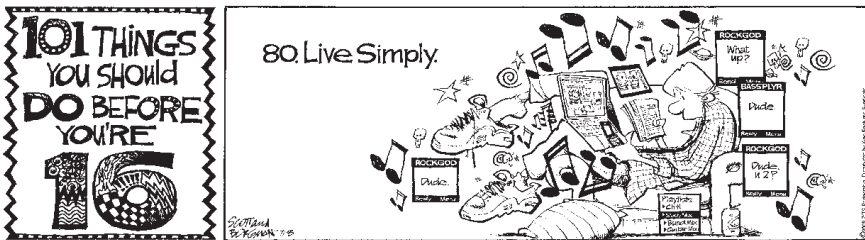
Baby Blues



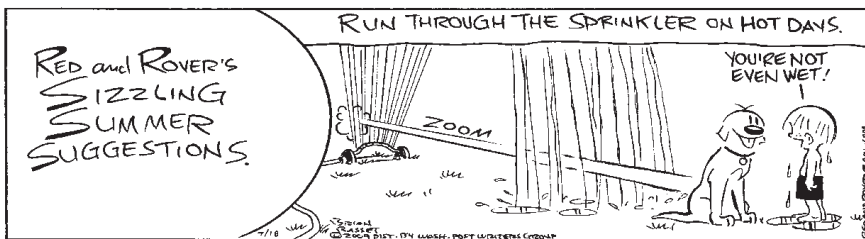
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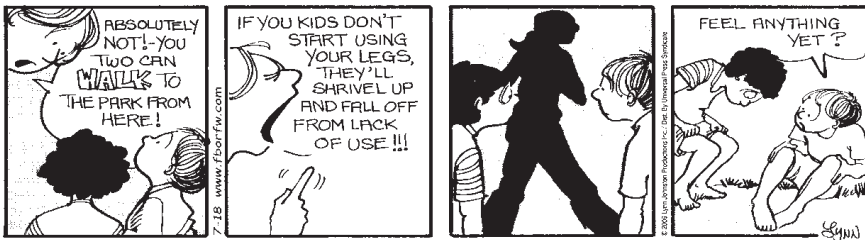
Red & Rover



Hagar



Better or Worse



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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ACROSS

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- More offensive
- TV networks, in a sense
- Amman's nation
- Shop talk
- Bobby of hockey
- Severity
- Literary collection
- Harvest
- Conger or moray
- Whip
- Wood nymph
- Bank employees
- Disencumber
- Vast expanse
- As well
- Chopped into cubes
- Pivot line
- Emeril's interjection
- Do surgery with a beam
- Born
- Trustworthy
- Bkpr.
- Singer
- Timberlake
- Close-fitting jacket

DOWN

- Prompt
- Small eggs
- Prerecorded
- Ceremonies
- Hilton heiress
- Swing around wildly
- Accomplished
- Started
- Filleted
- Musical instrument
- "Everybody out!"
- Nap
- For example
- Hen talk
- Catches sight of
- Campus bigwigs
- Primary study
- Rickey flavor
- Jeans-maker
- Strauss
- Gratuity
- Trench

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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A	O	N	E		T	O	P	I	C			
P	I	G	S	T		A	S	K		F	O	R
		C	U	R	S	T		S	L	A	Y	
M	I	G	H	T		U	S	S		O	R	E
A	N	N	E			A	N	Y		H	O	W
G	L	O	W	I	N	G			E	L	I	D
N	A	M		C	O	O			L	I	N	U
A	Y	E		E	N	D			L	O	G	O

7-18

CRYPTOQUIP

SZHE CR VTNHEF UGNF "N
WEJR SHGT PJGCWTWU
FHUNPEHT FTHUUHU," SGU
MZGM G VGUZNWE UMGHCHM?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TWO WILD MEN ACTED AS THOUGH THEY WERE ROBBING THE COSMETICS COUNTER, BUT IT WAS ONLY A ROUGE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals Y

Long-distance romance questioned

Dear Abby: I am a 20-year-old woman who has been in a committed relationship with my boyfriend, "Ian," for three years. I attend a university out of the country, so our relationship is mostly long-distance. We are in love and have discussed a future after I graduate. Ian says I'm the reason he has goals and wants to live a meaningful life.

Every now and then he says he's afraid that he is holding me back — that because I'm so committed to him I am missing out on some of the most important experiences I could have at the university. I have told Ian I'm happy with what we have and wouldn't trade it. If I wasn't with him, I would probably see other men, but more sexual freedom wouldn't make me happier. All my single friends say they would rather have what I have.

Our relationship means far more to me than the odd fling would. Ian says he has no desire

to be with other women, but he's afraid I don't know what I want because I haven't had experience with other men. How can I convince him that this is what I really want?

— **Decisive in Scotland**
Dear Decisive: Tell your boyfriend that while some women may enjoy quantity, you have an eye for quality, and he is the grand prize you have waited for all your life. Then tell him you're a one-man woman, and he's stuck with you. (This should do the trick, unless he's projecting his own feelings of ambivalence onto you.)

Dear Abby: In May 2001, you printed my letter alerting former prisoners of war and their widows to the special veterans' benefits available to them from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The response was great; many former POWs and their dependents now have their VA benefits because of that column.

Dear Abby



On Sept. 23, 2008, Lou Gehrig's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, was made a presumptive condition for all veterans who served in our armed forces for at least 90 days.

This means that the widows of those veterans who died of Lou Gehrig's disease in years past are eligible for the VA widows' monthly benefit, which is very substantial. Many people are not aware that a veteran's death due to this disease is now considered service-connected. One claim I handled recently involved an ALS death 46 years ago, in 1963.

— **Fred Campbell, American Ex-prisoners Of War**
Dear Fred: I'm pleased to help you and America's veterans once again. Readers, Fred welcomes inquiries at 3312 Chatterton Drive, San Angelo, TX 76904. He can also be e-mailed at [fredrev\(at\)webtv.net](mailto:fredrev(at)webtv.net).

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

UFORR

RYDYL

SWEENT

PHUDEL

Answer here:

(Answers Monday)

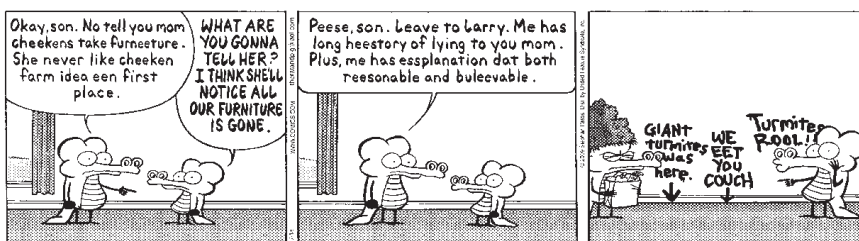
Yesterday's Jumbles: DECAF FLOOD NORMAL EASILY
 Answer: What the hardworking baker did — "LOAFED" ALL DAY

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

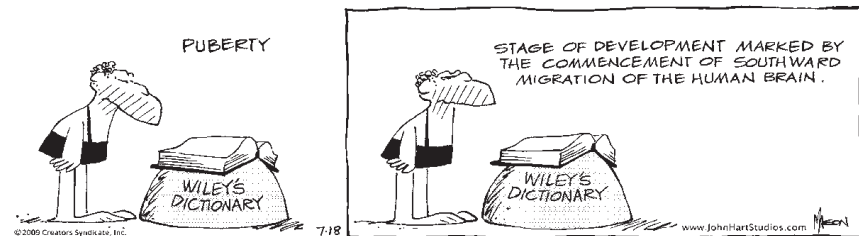


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

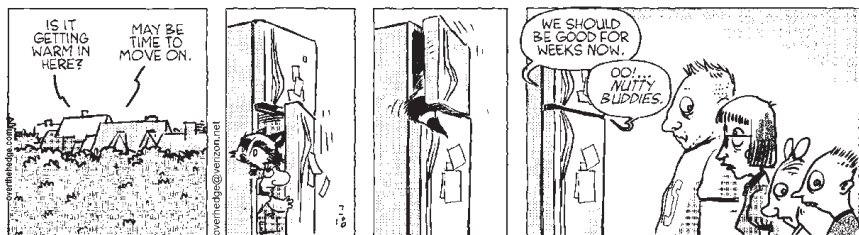
Pearls Before Swine



B.C.



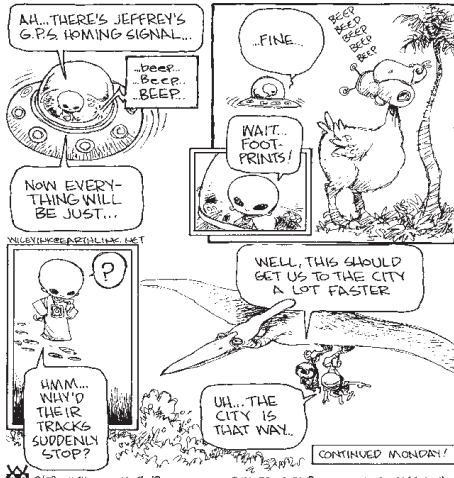
Pardon My Planet Over The Hedge



Pardon My Planet



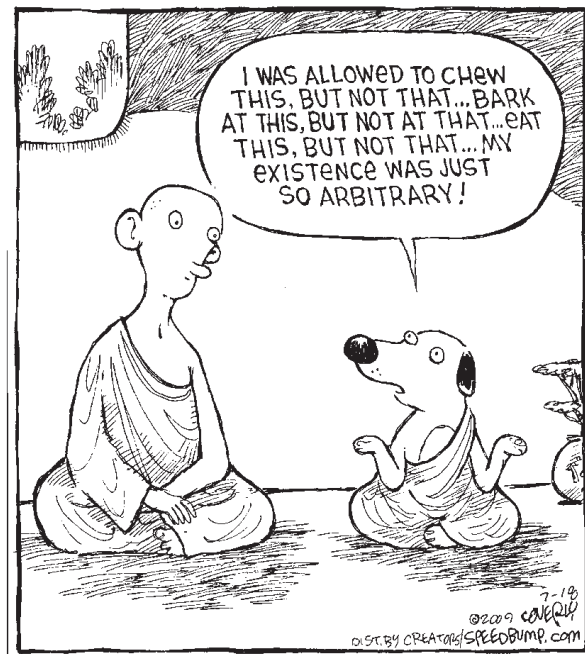
Non Sequitur



Strange Brew



Speed Bump



AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
9:00	CSI: NY "Grand Master"	Movie "Piglet's Big Movie" (2003) Voices of John Fiedler, Jim Cummings.	Movie "My Mother's Ghost" (1996, Suspense) Elisabeth Rosen, Gabrielle Rose, Barry Flatman.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	The View	Recon Revisited	Mad About You	(8:00) Sports	(8:00) Sports
9:30	Oprah Winfrey			Hannity	Dr. Phil	State Dept Briefing	Living Single		
10:00		Animaniacs				Fit For Duty	Guiding Light		
10:30						AFN Europe Report			
11:00	Dr. Phil	Scooby	(10:50) Movie "Road to Rio" (1947) Bing Crosby.	Anderson Cooper 360	Judge Alex	Sun City Soldier	E! News		Sports
11:30		Scooby	Jazzmen hop ship, save hypnotized heiress from aunt.		The King of Queens	Fit For Duty	The Daily 10		
12:00	CBS Evening News	SpongeBob SquarePants		Special Report With Bret Baier	Access Hollywood	Battleground	Star Trek "Patterns of Force"		
12:30	ESPN News	SpongeBob SquarePants			Judge Judy	Around the Services			
13:00	Prime News Tonight	Ozzy & Drix	(12:46) Movie "An Innocent Man" (1989, Crime Drama) Tom Selleck, F. Murray Abraham, Laila Robins.	Campbell Brown	The Young and the Restless	Briefing Encore	Roseanne "All of Me"		
13:30		WordGirl				Downrange	Girlfriends		
14:00	NBC Nightly News	Play With Me Sesame		Your World With Neil Cavuto	General Hospital	AFN Europe Report	Emeril Live	SportsCenter	Sports
14:30	World News-Gibson	Hi-5				Recon Revisited			
15:00	Sesame Street	The Brady Bunch	(2:51) Movie "The Net" (1995) Sandra Bullock, Jeremy Northam. Software makes computer nerd a target.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	How Do I Look?	SportsCenter	
15:30		The Brady Bunch				Battleground			
16:00	The View	Movie "Casper" (1995) Christina Ricci. Teen befriends Casper, the friendly ghost.		Around the Services	Oprah Winfrey	Army Newswatch	Survivorman	Sports	MTV Hits Playlist
16:30				Tavis Smiley		EChange on Air			
17:00	Dr. Phil	SpongeBob SquarePants	Behind the Scenes	Nightly Business Report	Wheel of Fortune	Around the Services	King of the Hill		X Play
17:30			The Big Tease	Nightline	Jeopardy!	Downrange	That '70s Show		Punk'd
18:00	Judge Alex	Duel Masters	What It Takes	The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Today's Air Force	Daily Show-Jon Stewart		The Simpsons
18:30	The King of Queens	Kim Possible	Entertainment Tonight		Around the Services	All Hands TV	The Colbert Report		Family Guy "DaBoom"
19:00	Access Hollywood	Unfabulous	Movie "Hollywood Homicide" (2003) Harrison Ford. Two detectives investigate the slaying of a rap group.	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Babes"	Briefing Encore	Scrubs "My ABC's"		National Heads-Up Poker Championship From Las Vegas.
19:30	Judge Judy	True Jackson, VP				Fit For Duty	My Name Is Earl		
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Sonny With a Chance		Today	CSI: Miami "Wrecking Crew"	Battleground	Chuck "Chuck Versus the SENSEI"		
20:30		Wizards of Waverly Place				Recon Revisited			
21:00	General Hospital	Wildfire "Guilty" Jean has financial problems.	(:01) Movie "Out of Time" (2003) Denzel Washington. A police chief is accused of setting a deadly arson.	Today	Big Brother 11	Around the Services	Brothers & Sisters "Just a Silver"		South Park "Pinkeye"
21:30						Pacific Report			South Park
22:00	Days of our Lives	Heroes "Company Man"		America's Newsroom	Pacific Report	Briefing Encore	Seinfeld "The Pie"	Sports	Best Damn Sports Show Period
22:30						All Hands TV	Friends		
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "Girls Just Want to Have Fun"	(10:59) Movie "New Jack City" (1991) Wesley Snipes.	Newsroom	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Today's Air Force	Daily Show-Jon Stewart		Attack of the Show!
23:30					Late Show-Letterman	Downrange	The Colbert Report		

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	Unfabulous	(10:59) Movie New Jack City	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	Recon	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	(10:00) Sports	X Play
00:30	Jeopardy!	True Jackson, VP	(:45) Movie "The Score" (2001, Crime Drama) Robert De Niro, Edward Norton, Angela Bassett. A master thief agrees to work with a volatile partner.	Happening Now	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty	Scrubs	Sports	Punk'd
1:00	Headline News	Sonny With a Chance			Judge Judy	The Grill Sergeants	My Name Is Earl		The Simpsons
1:30	ATN/AFN Report	Wizards of Waverly Place		Newsroom	CSI: NY "A Man a Mile"	Around the Services	Desperate Housewives "Into the Woods"		Family Guy "DaBoom"
2:00	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Babes"	Wildfire "Guilty" Jean has financial problems.				Downrange	The American Veteran		National Heads-Up Poker Championship From Las Vegas.
2:30						The American Veteran			
3:00	CSI: Miami "Wrecking Crew"	Heroes "Company Man"	(:04) Movie "Hollywood Homicide" (2003, Action) Harrison Ford. Two detectives investigate the slaying of a rap group.	MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	EChange on Air	Third Watch "True Love"	Sports	
3:30						State Dept Briefing			
4:00	Big Brother 11	7th Heaven "Girls Just Want to Have Fun"		Studio B With Shepard Smith	Dr. Phil	Battleground	Seinfeld "The Pie"		South Park "Pinkeye"
4:30						Around the Services	Friends	College Football Live	South Park
5:00	Headline News	Barney & Friends	(:05) Movie "Out of Time" (2003) Denzel Washington, Eva Mendes. A police chief is accused of setting a deadly arson.	The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Good Morning America	This Week in the Pentagon National Guard News	Kiana's Flex Appeal	NFL Live	Best Damn Sports Show Period
5:30	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Oobi		Glenn Beck	Good Morning America	Downrange	Denise Austin's Getting Fit	Jim Rome Is Burning	Attack of the Show!
6:00		Sesame Street				Around the Services	Easy Entertaining	Around the Horn	
6:30	Late Show With David Letterman	My Friend Rabbit	Movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" (1977) Richard Dreyfuss, François Truffaut. UFO sighters finally meet the aliens that obsessed them.	Around the Services	Dragon	Briefing Encore	Ace of Cakes	Pardon the Interruption	MTV Hits Playlist
7:00		Clifford's Puppy Days		NBC Nightly News	Ribert & Robert's	Downrange	Ultimate Goals	SportsCenter	
7:30	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Ni Hao, Kai-lan		World News-Gibson	Sonic the Hedgehog	Fit For Duty	Clean House	Sports	Sports
8:00				CBS Evening News	Danny Phantom	Around the Services			
8:30	Judge Judy	Mickey Mouse Clubhouse		The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Entertainment Studios.com	Recon Revisited	MythBusters Mixing diet cola and Mentos candy.		
9:00	CSI: NY "A Man a Mile"	Sid the Science Kid	(:32) Movie "Broadcast News" (1987, Romance-Comedy) William Hurt, Albert Brooks. James Brooks' acclaimed portrait of a TV news group.	Hannity	Cris Angel Mindfreak	State Dept Briefing	Storm Chasers "No Place Like Kansas"		
9:30		Phineas and Ferb			Dogfights The Vietnam War; American F-4 Phantom pilots.	Fit For Duty	Dirty Jobs Alaskan fish-processing ship.		Sports
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	The Buzz on Maggie		Anderson Cooper 360	MLB Baseball Houston Astros at Los Angeles Dodgers. From Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles. (Live)	AFN Europe Report	Latin Lifestyles		
10:30		American Dragon: Jake Long		Special Report With Bret Baier		Fit For Duty	Urban Style		
11:00	Dr. Phil	My Life as a Teenage Robot		Campbell Brown		Battleground	Designed to Sell		
11:30		Static Shock				Around the Services	Tyler's Ultimate		
12:00	CBS Evening News	Teen Kids News	(:02) Movie "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl" (2003) Johnny Depp. A blacksmith and a pirate must rescue a kidnapped damsel.	Your World With Neil Cavuto	Access Hollywood	AFN Europe Report	The Next Food Network Star "Miami Up All Night"	SportsCenter	Sports
12:30	ESPN News	Grossology				The Grill Sergeants			
13:00	NBC Nightly News	Out There	(:40) Movie "The Magnificent Seven" (1960, Western) Yul Brynner, Eli Wallach. A man in black recruits hired guns to defend Mexican villagers.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Deadliest Catch Tensions rise on the Maverick and Rollo.	Fit For Duty	Eureka "Invincible"	SportsCenter	
13:30	World News-Gibson	Planet's Funniest Animals		Around the Services	Law & Order A controversial book's publisher is found dead.	Battleground			
14:00	Dragon	Faithful Friends		Tavis Smiley		Fi. Hood on Track	Stargate Atlantis "Michael"	Sports	MTV Hits Playlist
14:30	Ribert & Robert's	Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files		Nightly Business Report	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Woodhouse Family"	Recon	King of the Hill		Top 20 Countdown
15:00	Sonic the Hedgehog	Animal Miracles "Rawhide"		Nightline		Recon Revisited	That '70s Show		
15:30	Danny Phantom			The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Army Newswatch	The King of Queens		Top 20 Countdown
16:00	Naruto	SpongeBob SquarePants			ESPN News	This Week in the Pentagon	Everybody Loves Raymond		
16:30	Darcy's Wild Life	SpongeBob SquarePants		Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Law & Order "Rapture"	The Grill Sergeants	My Boys		ECW
17:00	Entertainment Studios.com	Bindi the Jungle Girl		Today	Leverage "The Mile High Job"	Fit For Duty	How I Met Your Mother		
17:30	Cris Angel Mindfreak	Lemur Kingdom				Battleground	The Unit "Dancing Lessons"		WWE SmackDown!
18:00	Dogfights The Vietnam War; American F-4 Phantom pilots.	The Universe Cosmic hot zones.				Balad and Beyond			
18:30						All Hands TV	Prison Break Wyatt gets personal with Gretchen.		
19:00	Access Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Top 10 dancers perform.				Pacific Report			
19:30						Recon			
20:00	Deadliest Catch Tensions rise on the Maverick and Rollo.					Today's Air Force			
20:30						Recon			
21:00	Law & Order A controversial book's publisher is found dead.	Dawson's Creek "Hurricane"	(:07) Movie "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle" (2003) Cameron Diaz. Private detectives try to retrieve cryptic information.	MSNBC Live	Headline News	Army Newswatch	Saturday Night Live	Sports	Best Damn Sports Show Period
21:30					American Dad	Today's Air Force			
22:00	Law & Order "Rapture"	Movie "Hellboy" (2004, Fantasy) Ron Perlman, John Hurt, Selma Blair. The son of the devil fights paranormal creatures.	(:01) Movie "Bite the Bullet" (1975) Gene Hackman.	Bulls and Bears	"Til Death "Clay Date"	Recon			Attack of the Show!
22:30				Cavuto on Business	Back to You	This Week in the Pentagon	Austin City Limits		
23:00	Leverage "The Mile High Job"								
23:30									

News

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

Sports

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Announcements 040

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Autos for Sale 141

Atsugi - 1996 Nissan Skyline 4Door non-turbo, 300 plate, JCI due9/30/2010, insp due 7/31/2010, 100,557km \$1500obo. Call 0467637278 or 2647278.

Atsugi - 2002 Cadillac Seville SLS 4.6L (4565 cc) Northstar V-8 engine, Leather, all Power, disc CD changer, RSD \$7,500.00 obo 08056895453 Ivan.

Atsugi - 96 Honda Odyssey, 67,000 km, runs great, cold AC, CD player, new tires and radiator in 2008, JCI thru April 2010, road tax paid, available July 22 - PCS'ing, \$1200, call 264-7631

Yokosuka - 1994 Toyota Estima Van-JCI & Base Insp. 2011, mini fridge/hot box, ceiling mounted fold out color TV w/Remote, sun & moon roof, great A/C and heat, parking sensor, excellent condition. Must transfer by 7-31-09. Call 010-6684-4110 or 315-246-8655, \$2500 Neg.

Yokosuka - 1995 Cadillac Eldorado, Great shape, very well maintained! Fully optioned! 54,000 original miles! Best reasonable offer. Call Scott at 080-1373-2360.

Yokosuka - 94 Toyota Estima - JCI until Nov. 2009. Oil changed, realignment is done. A/C works asking \$900 OBO. Please contact Anita 246-8834 / 090-4221-5919 or 110 Geri 246-5938 / 080-3340-8214

Autos for Sale 141

Yokosuka - 1995 Nissan Skyline GTSE51 4door, 70,000kms, new timing belt and gtr N1 water-pump, 5 speed conversion/ ORC twin plate clutch- Not too stiff. Comes with Nismo titanium catback exhaust and also a custom titanium catless exhaust for track purposes. DMAX carbon fiber hood, HID low beams 6000k legal, HKS evc3 boost controller (boost kept at 6.5 bar L7.5 H currently) FMIC, 1.5way lift, Factory ECU reflashed by TM Factory for an automatic, so works in auto or manual. Lots of other parts, pictures available if wanted. \$4500 obo. Serious offers only. Like to see this to a good driver. Buyer may get some extra goodies thrown in for free that I didn't have time to install. Call Chuck at 090 3692 4470

Yokosuka, Japan - 1994 Honda Rafaga Sedan 4dr car up for sale is a dark blue automatic it has about 91,000 km, cold ac, pw, power lock, CD player, dual airbags, seats 5, abs, and comes with 2 extra tires. \$1000 OBO vehicle is located on Yokosuka base great reliable car with no problems. Good gas saver. JCI until sep. 09 asking \$1000 please call 0468-07-3743 o r e m a i l snowboyguy21@yahoo.com

Yokota - \$1,000 buys a 1996 Toyota Ipsum. Awesome dual AC, iPod ready with great stereo, seats 6 fabulous "Vegas-like" interior that absorbs child droppings. JCI till next year. Call Tim at 09093664615 (Yokota). Available July 25th.

Announcements 040

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Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1990 Mazda Miata Roadster (convertible) Runs and drives great. Nothing wrong mechanically, small tear in the back of the top, five speed and lots of fun. My daughter has left for college no longer needed. JCI until Oct. 09 asking \$1650 OBO Please call 210-547-9936 or email samuelengler@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 1991 Toyota Estima (4-Wheel Drive) The larger Toyota van. Red with only 121K Km (75.2K Miles) Seats 7 comfortably, two middle bucket seats that turn all the way around or flatten out to load larger cargo. Smooth ride with sonar sensors on all 4 corners of vehicle. Excellent tires. New Air Conditioner compressor 7 months ago. Cold air works great! Includes a cooler/make maker in center console for long trips. Sun Roof, JCI until Feb 2010 Asking 2100 OBO Call 1-763-354-3512 or email tom_n_ana@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Subaru Legacy Wagon, runs fine, JCI to Sept. 29th Best use as a temporary short term vehicle. Runs fine, A/C, music, etc. seats 5, rear seat folds down. Why so cheap? Just had JCI inspection and will need \$400-\$800 of work to pass next JCI (on-base price, maybe half that off-base). Recycling tax already paid. Road tax paid. Can use for a temporary car, then junk. At junking, you can get back the remaining Road tax, which should be over \$100. Could fix up, but wouldn't recommend it, won't pass due to oil leaks, tires at minimum, etc. We are about to travel and want to take care of this in the next few days. If no response, we'll junk it ourselves shortly; just thought someone could use it for temporary transportation. Please email yokotajoe88@yahoo.com. Thanks for viewing!

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Nissan Cima runs great 18" Chrome Rims PCS'ing soon! JCI good until Aug 2010! Asking \$1000 Call Gainey 080-3719-9713 gainey98@msn.com

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Toyota Camry, color dark gray/blue; 4-door; good condition. Selling for a friend who is PCS'ing. JCI expires Feb. 2010 asking \$1000 obo please call Jim at 1-923-338-7588

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Mazda Familia, \$800, silver/gray in color. 4door, new tires, runs good, A/C works, just needs to be recharged. Road tax and recycling tax, paid. JCI good till Aug 2010. Miles 67784-km. Available July 28. Give deposit we will hold for you. Contact Jennifer 240-845-5319

Yokota, Japan - 1995' Nissan skyline turbo w/ JCI and road tax. Only 1 previous owner before me (Japanese Owner), automatic, less than 70k miles, Black with gray interior, tires changed, 18" alloy wheels, JCI covered until December 2010. Greddy Turbo Timer installed asking \$2500. Only serious buyers please. Please call frederick.roberts@yokota.af.mil or macmoro@rocketmail.com for inquiries

Yokota, Japan - 1996 Honda Accord Wagon - Power Locks, brand new, Break pads/ Power Windows / Air Conditioner / Anti-Lock Brakes / Driver Airbag / Passenger Airbag / A/C / Power Steering / Alloy Wheels / Power Mirrors / ETC Card Reader. Pre-installed. Very roomy. Looks great. Drives great, everything runs. Great No accidents, JCI until Aug. 2011 asking \$3500 please call 090-1452-9348

Yokota, Japan - 1996 Honda Odyssey low km JCI good until Feb. 2011 asking \$1600 please call 773-634-7782 or email usa.firefighters - wife@ymail.com

Yokota, Japan - 1996 Mitsubishi Lancer MX Great investment. Smoke free. Power locks and windows. Automatic 4 doors. Very standard. Big trunk. JCI is good for 2 years exp. Date of sale already paid. Road tax paid. Asking \$2000.00 or best offer. Please call David or Jennifer 7134900555

Yokota, Japan - 1997 Honda Integra 84,700 km Air Conditioning Power Locks Power Windows JCI until April 2010 Asking \$2300 please call Jayson Hedrick 090-6116-7079 or email jaym72@msn.com

Yokota, Japan - 1997 Honda Odyssey JCI July 2011 \$1800.00 obo low miles /power sunroof / 7 passenger front + back ac + heat all seats fold area new tires (4 months old) front wheel drive / tilt steering abs / power everything sunshine roof (tinted see through roof) great shape /well maintained call 614-358-4908

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1998 Honda Life (Mini Car) Under 35K Miles Great Condition! Gas Mileage Power Everything Tinted Windows Low Road Tax Low JCI Cost Purchased at Yokota Honda Dealership. JCI until July 2011 Asking 2200 OBO Call 773-634-7775

Yokota, Japan - 1998 Toyota Gaia (Crossover - Seats 7) Under 35K Miles - great condition Television GPS Navigation Capable Rear Parking Camera 360 Degree Sonar Warning Two Moon Roofs Front + Rear A/C & Heat Power Everything Purchased at Tokyo Toyota Dealership. JCI until July 2011 Asking \$3750 OBO Call 773-634-7775

Yokota, Japan - 1999 Honda Odyssey JCI good until Jan 2011, Great AC and Heater, CD Player, Power windows and doors, Great Condition. 72646 Kilometers, Remote power locks, Very Clean (Owners are non-smokers!) Must sell owner is PCS'ing/Asking \$3000 OBO Call 08035868753 or email g.i.frog@gmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 2000 US SPEC Subaru Impreza STI, it is an "E" plate so you can ship it back to the states with no problem. This car is nicely modified and is in Beautiful shape. JCI until Sep. 2010 asking \$14500 OBO Please check out this site for pictures and Modifications: http://www.cardomain.com/ride/3307436 if any questions please email me caree1907@yahoo.com or call 510-615-5651 Trades welcome.

Yokota, Japan - 2001 Subaru Legacy B4 5 speed manual transmission. Twin turbo twin wheel drive. Black and Blue leather interior. 5 disc CD changer. Navigation system AF market MOMO steering wheel HKS cold air intake HKS Super Sequential blow off valve HKS turbo timer. Cusco front strut bar Aftermarket exhaust. Hnd head brackets Adjustable suspension LED instrument panel. Power everything interior in excellent condition Exterior in good condition Factory 17" bronze rims (almost no curb rash). New tires (about 2 months old). Keyless entry just changed the oil. Road tax paid. JCI until April 2011 asking \$4700 I still have most of the stock parts. All reasonable offers will be considered. You can also contact me at 080-4053-9239 or johnathan.mckee@yokota.af.mil

Yokota, Japan - For sale rav4 Toyota - \$1,500.00 1994 Toyota Rav4 2 DR Automatic Transmission Runs Great A/C and Heat AM / FM / CD Player Road Tax/JCI good until 2010 Rear seats folds away for groceries, Great on gas, Recent maintenance. New brake pads, new wiper blades, new tires, and brand new key cylinder, asking \$1500 if interested, call Jeff on a cell phone 080-3362-7604 or 1-323-338-7570 to arrange viewing or test drive

Yokota, Japan - Honda Civic JCI Mar 2011 Great car excellent condition. A/C works great. Keyless entry. Low mil or great on gas. JCI expire Mar. 2011asking \$1500 Call 1-623-734-9619

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 95 Toyota Mark II Silver, 90K km runs great. Serious offers only call Eric 717-265-2635 JCI until July 2011 asking \$1750 Please call 7172652635 or email esndrs49@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 95 Toyota Windom - In good shape! Only 111,360 km on it Good for a family, lots of space, huge trunk. CD player, power windows, power locks, awesome A/C for hot summer. JCI until Apr 2010. Please call 090-4227-5269 or email brandy@yokota.af.mil if interested. JCI until Apr. Asking \$1900 Please call 090-4227-5269 or email broolio@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 96 Acura Inspire 63k miles new JCI-price cut Clean and reliable car! New Tires, 6 Disc CD changer, 4 door, Power Sunroof, Road Tax Paid, New JCI, 17inch alloy wheels, low profile tires, cold AC, bought from dealer off base, well kept, clean interior, clean title, power windows and locks, low miles, serviced on schedule. Good gas mileage. Ready to be driven around Japan JCI until June 2011 asking \$2500 Call 100-battery plenty of power. Need to sell JCI until Oct. 2010 asking \$3900 OBO Please call 210-547-9936 or email samuelengler@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 96' Acura Inspire 63K-JCI June 2011 Immaculate car! Metallic Finish Green, New Tires, 6 Disc CD changer, 4 door, Power Sunroof, Road Tax Paid, New JCI, 17inch alloy wheels, low profile tires, COLD AC, originally bought from dealer off-base, well kept, clean interior, clean title, power windows and locks, low miles, serviced on schedule. Good gas mileage. JCI until June 2011. Asking \$2450! Ready to be driven around Japan Make me an offer! Call 305-520-0368.

Yokota, Japan - 99 Honda Integra In Great Condition For Sale 1999 Honda (Acura) Integra Silver exterior color Has Black interior very clean Low miles (52000) Black windows are Tinted JCI Good Tilt Dec 2010 Excellent Gas mileage (36 km per gallon) \$2500 Or Best Offer Price negotiable so Call or email me and make me an offer Call cell 08051981568 or home 512-275-4863

Yokota, Japan - For sale rav4 Toyota - \$1,500.00 1994 Toyota Rav4 2 DR Automatic Transmission Runs Great A/C and Heat AM / FM / CD Player Road Tax/JCI good until 2010 Rear seats folds away for groceries, Great on gas, Recent maintenance. New brake pads, new wiper blades, new tires, and brand new key cylinder, asking \$1500 if interested, call Jeff on a cell phone 080-3362-7604 or 1-323-338-7570 to arrange viewing or test drive

Yokota, Japan - Honda Civic JCI Mar 2011 Great car excellent condition. A/C works great. Keyless entry. Low mil or great on gas. JCI expire Mar. 2011asking \$1500 Call 1-623-734-9619

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - Priced to sell 1994 Toyota Carina This is a great 1st or 2nd car. It's in excellent condition. Brand new brakes and a full size spare tire. Low mileage. 69km Automatic transmission Power windows Air condition. JCI until May 2011 asking \$1500 OBO Please call 090-2271-9082

Zama - 1994 Nissan Skyline, charcoal color, 53,000 KM, new battery last year, new brake pads, 100,000 km, remote keyless entry, JCI good until Aug 09, road tax paid, good condition, includes iPod FM transmitter, available July 15th, \$500. Contact Suzanne 267-6180, 080-3098-5767, or email sandalbook@hotmail.com

Zama - 1998 Honda Odyssey Van, JCI: 6 June 2011. Leather exterior, TV, navigational unit. Excellent cond. Available immediately. \$2,000. 080-5688-0996/263-8976

Motorcycles 164

Yokota, Japan - 2000 Honda X-11 Nice motorcycle 1100 cc, low battery plenty of power. Need to sell JCI until Oct. 2010 asking \$3900 OBO Please call 210-547-9936 or email samuelengler@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - Honda CBR 600 RR- 2003- Excellent Condition! Oil, Oil Filter, Air Filter, Spark Plugs all changed on 20 Jun 09- Tires Pilot Power 2CT-New Tires on 2-Jun-09 -Custom Painted Black Swing arm/Tail Motorcycle Rear sets (chrome) -Stock passenger sets (Chrome dipped) -Stock Clutch/brake/Lever (Chrome Dipped) -Yoshimura Exhaust -Chrome Wind Screen -Corbin Main Seat -Custom Graphics. JCI until Jan. 09 asking \$7000 Call 080-3739-9126 or email nota824682@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Suzuki GSX-R 750 Bike has low miles (1000). Bunch of upgrades. Can be taken back to the states. Call 0805-0800-412 if interested. JCI until Jan. 2011 asking \$5500 Call 973-474-2603 or email s_cenov@yahoo.com

Auto Parts 180

Yokota, Japan - 15" wheels looking for some - 15" wheels with a 5on 5.5 lug pattern Thanks for looking Please email meangreenparts@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Stock Honda Rims Looking to buy stock Honda Rims that will fit 95 Accord. I believe the bolt pattern is 4X114.3. Willing to pay a reasonable price or to trade my aftermarket rims with tires for stock rims and tires. Send me an e-mail for pictures. Call 9164734539 or email theunsteated@gmail.com reasonable price. Thanks a lot

Baby Items 200

Yokosuka - White 5 in 1 crib with matching changing table and armoire. All offers considered. \$300. Jakeen@246-8466 or wisteyd3@yahoo.com

Zama - New Playhouse \$100, Eddie Bower Baby Back pack: \$30, White Baby crib with bedding \$50, 080-5688-0996/263-8976

Bicycles 220

Zama - Boys 26 inch bicycle. NEXST Power Climber 18 speed knobby tire street bike. Needs new inner tubes other wise like brand new condition. \$50. Two Symphonic color televisions 27" for \$75 and 19" for \$50. Email ed_major@hotmail.com.

Books 250

Yokota, Japan - Many UMUC books BMGT 380, Business law today 8th Ed, Miller & Jentz \$70.00 ASTRO 100, Horizons over universe, 10th Ed, Seeds, \$35.00 HRMN 300, Human resource mgmt, 12th Ed, Mathis \$80.00 PHSY 100, Physical science, 4th Ed, Hewitt, \$80.00 HRMN 385, Generations @ work, Current Ed, Zemke, \$15.00 Prices firm, Contact gaj222@yahoo.com, 080-4059-2674

Clothing 320

Yokota, Japan - Huge bag w/ older boy clothes & shoes my son just filled a huge bag w/ clothes & shoes. Clothes are mainly sizes 12/14 & a few 14/16 (S, M, L, and XL). There are a few pairs of Jeans that are brand new. There are Nike Sets, P.J.s, shirts, shorts, and more. The shoes are Youth size 6-There are Nike's, Van's, and more (these shoes are for a "boy", however, my daughter also wore some of them). This whole bag is priced to sell now: \$25 for ALL (I also have an ad on Yokota Ads for huge, heavy bags of girl clothes & woman's clothes). Please call if you have any questions. We have to downsize now! Please Call 916-473-4488

Yokota, Japan - Large shirts I have 5 shirts that I ordered from Pac sun, I ordered the wrong size. There is 1 billabong, 1 famous Stars and straps, 1 Hurley, and 2 Zoo York. They have never been worn and still have the tags on them. Asking \$15 each you can call me at home 858-368-6861 or my cell 080-4053-9239. Thanks.

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Club/Parties 340 YOKOHAMA WORLD FRIENDS INTERNATIONAL PARTY, July 18, Sat, 6:30-9pm, Restaurant Forest Avenue, Biggest International Party in Yokohama, Meet 150 people, 20 kinds of free cocktails, Free Snacks, 3000 Yen http://www.worldfriends-party.com Call 080-2001-0512 party@goover.co.jp	Furniture 510 Yokosuka-Toddler bed set "Thomas the Train" with reusable wall stickers. New still in original packaging. \$45 J a k e e n @ 246-8466 or tweetyd03@yahoo.com Yokota, Japan - 4 drawer cherry dresser perfect for a little extra space in great shape. A few small nicks, but looks great. Asking \$75 Call Jill Piparo 407-373-1382 Yokota, Japan - Leather sectional couch must go! Leather Couch needs to go before move. Asking price is flexible as long as you can transport it out of town. Each piece can fit in the back of an empty van. Three pieces, great quality. Asking \$150 OBO Call 323-786-7989 or email aceraerney@yahoo.com for more information Yokota, Japan - Sofa and love seat warning: You could be very lazy. Clean and in good shape. I'm going on another PCSing soon, so decided to try and sell them before I leave. If not I'll put in storage. 080-3720-0665 ask for F. Call 080-3720-0665 or email fwampner@hotmail.com Yokota, Japan - Toddler Bed Very new, hardly used white toddler bed with mattress. Can deliver anywhere in Yokota. Asking \$60. Please call 090-9837-0640 or email m_bartlam@yahoo.com	Household Items 560 Yokota, Japan - 4th of July items /Kitchen items /more downsizing now must sell. Absolutely nothing wrong w anything. Most of the items I forgot I had, & never used. My loss, your gain these items are all perfect if you plan on having company over for 4th of July celebrations, or any gatherings/BBQ's in the future. 1) Large bag filled w misc. 4th of July items (one is a flag that waves & plays diff. music), flickering candle-can be used as nightlight too, Hallmark ornaments, Halloween decor (not scary). Window clings that say "happy birthday", & much, much more. Whole bag-\$10.00 2) huge, heavy bag filled w misc. kitchen items-most are still brand new-this would be perfect for this weekend-to many items to list-name brands too. Huge bag \$35 please call Angela 916-473-4488 Yokota, Japan - Really nice full/Queen bedding set must sell now! No reasonable offer refused. This set is really nice, no bold/wild prints or anything. It has soft, natural, neutral colors (browns, light browns, accent light blue). One match just about any decor I took everything to the cleaners!! Everything you need for bedding set, & plenty of extras. I paid about \$600 for this set. I was hoping to get \$160 (willing to accept payments if need be), or best offer. It's all sitting here, in org. bags, ready to go. Please call if you'd like to see it all in person. There is a lot! So sorry, I do not have pictures as everything is in the bags now, ready to go. This really is a nice set. Must go now please call 916-473-4488 Yokota, Japan - Small / Medium size Sewing Box & MORE Small to Medium Size Sewing Box. The base is purple in color w/ a clear lid. Inside, there is a magnetic place to hold needles, storage on side. You can lift that area up for more storage underneath. There's also an area to hold plenty of thread-this also lifts up for tons of storage underneath. Asking \$5.00 if not home, please leave a message. Thank you. p.s. if you do other craft products, I have a craft cutter as well, exc. shape-\$10 (this is also great for scrapbooking, cutting paper/pictures, ETC.) Price to go now please Angela 916-473-4488 Yokota, Japan - Toy box 3 1/2ft by 3ft plastic toy chest. Tan with blue top (removable) \$30. Also I have PS1 Wii games and stuff I have a good old fashion PS1 with all kind as games controllers n such. Asking \$100 Please a m a i l e d _ m a j o r @ h o t m a i l . c o m Zama - Two Symphonic color televisions 27" for \$75 and 19" for \$50. E m a i l e d _ m a j o r @ h o t m a i l . c o m	Home Electronics 570 Yokota, Japan - 37" LCD TV & Bose System Package First off this is a great deal, were selling for about half off of what we paid. 37" RCA LCD TV SRS, sound Great condition about a year old. We bought in the states for \$800 Bose 2 speaker & Subwoofer Bought at the BX for \$500. 720-257-6786 or skip592@hotmail.com \$700 OBO for both or \$350 a piece Yokota, Japan - 37" RCA LCD TV w/ HDMI Input updated we're looking to get maybe a 42 or 47 inch TV. I think we've had this one for a little over a year. Nothing wrong with it, the TV's been great for us just looking to get something bigger I don't have the model number right now, but if you email me I'll get it. Please send emails to skip592@hotmail.com we'll sell to the highest bid we receive. Right now the offer is at \$280 Yokota, Japan - DS games and Xbox 360 game Ds games \$8.00 each. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Nickelodeon Danny Phantom Urban Jungle Xbox 360 game \$15.00 Cars Mater National Championship Call 407-373-1327 or email kristlehane@hotmail.com Yokota, Japan - Nintendo Wii, NIB Signed by Jared - The Subway Guy Nintendo Wii brand new in box. Box photographed by Jared Fogel (aka "The Subway Guy"). Items in box have been inventoried. Comes with Wii Sports \$25 OBO Also for sale! Nintendo Wii Fit - New in Box \$75 will sell both together for \$290 you can also call 229-375-5570 Yokota, Japan - Nintendo Wii Package - Like New - Includes Games! Like NEW - Includes Wii Sports, Love the Wii, but I do not have nearly enough time to enjoy it! Includes original packaging and Wii Sports \$175 and it's all yours! Please call 813-200-9377 or email judbean@gmail.com. Thank you and make it a great day! Yokota, Japan - Play station 2. It comes with everything and it works great. Asking \$50 if you are interested in buying it, please give me a call 080-3730-8811 Ask for Star or hewianavywife80@gmail.com Yokota, Japan - Xbox 360 games wanted. I want to buy: left 4 dead \$30 halo 3 \$30 dead space \$25 halo 1 \$10 halo 2 \$10 all games must be a good condition please, no scratches, soda stains. I would like to have the org. cases also, don't really care about the booklets. Call 314-558-3431 or email md_carey@hotmail.com Yokota, Japan - Diamond watchman goby 2inch saltwater fish \$10, Maroon yellow stripe clown fish 1.5 inch saltwater fish \$15 Call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com	Jobs Offered 630 U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, Japan Camp Zama, Japan Physical Therapist, Intermittent (240 hours) • Provides physical therapy service in the areas of physical disabilities and neuromuscular dysfunctions in patients ranging from adolescence to the very elderly. Qualifications: • A Bachelor's degree or higher in Physical Therapy from an accredited school in the United States. • Two years clinical physical therapy experience with training in manual therapy skills is preferred. • Must have a permanent, full, and unrestricted license to practice physical therapy in a State, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory of the United States. Other Requirements: • This position requires a signed statement due to requirements of seasonal influenza vaccination as a condition of employment. Selection of a non-current employee will be withdrawn due to refusal of seasonal influenza vaccination. If refusal is due to medical and/or religious reasons, a statement from a credible source is required. This is a contract position open to SOFA status applicants. Resumes may be sent to yoshiyasu.aoki@us.army.mil. ALL applicants shall register in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) which can be found at www.ccr.gov. Individuals not CCR registered are not eligible for a Government contract.	Pets 820 Yokota, Japan - Male Blue Min pin for sale great with kids. We just don't have time for him. A year old very good family dog Asking \$700 OBO Call 813-200-9345 or email little_mearny_babe@yahoo.com Zama - Long Haired Chihuahua puppy. Cream and white female. Born on June 25th, she'll be ready to go to her new home at 8 weeks old on August 13th. Email 458winmag@gmail.com for pictures. Call 080-3540-6107. \$500 obo. She's on Zama, but delivery can be arranged to Atsugi, Yokota, Yokosuka. Zama - Shiba Inu puppy for sale! He is 7 weeks old and comes with everything, Kennel, Leash, Food bowl, Shampoo, Brush and Food. He is very sweet, we have to give him away due to allergies. Asking \$350 OBO Call Stephen DSN 287-6101, CELL 08058798314 or by email: palmer_mia@yahoo.com Yokota - For Sale - Large Dog Kennel 39x30x22. \$35. If interested please call 763-354-3551 and ask for Mike. Yokota, Japan - 2 Ferrets brother and sister they have their short records. They come with cage food litter and lots of other stuff. They are fixed and dissented. They range from 180-300 each off post. We need to get rid of them due to friends kids are allergic. Call Jon or Deb at 267-6601 or 090-6560-0442 asking \$200 Yokota, Japan - A cute/well behaved dog for FREE I have a poodle mix puppy (about 10 months old) for free to a good home. He is well trained so he knows his limits. At the moment he is puppy pad trained, but he would be easy to train to go outside. He comes with everything we have for him, lots of toys, a kennel, 2 bags of food, clothes, bowls etc. He has all of his shots and he is fixed. We love him very much and he is very smart. We are only getting rid of him because we're not supposed to have a dog and we shouldn't have bought him in the first place. That is the only reason. Call me anytime and we can meet so you can meet him. If we're not home leave a message. Please call 407-373-1380	Homes/Apts for Rent - US 866 Cherry Point 3 BR/2 BA newer Home for Rent. 1/2 acre lot on quiet cul-de-sac, \$1250/Month in New Bern, NC (20 min to M C A S). Contact karlpearson@juno.com for pix and info. Sporting Goods 980 Yokota, Japan - GAZELLE EDGE With yoke Gazelle Edge, you'll use the muscles of both your upper and lower body in an easy gliding motion to burn calories, firm muscles and improve your cardiovascular endurance. Ideal for all fitness levels, the Gazelle's unsurpassed range of motions lets you go from a slow walk to a full run with no sudden stops. You can achieve a challenging aerobic workout without sacrificing your knees due to its low impact nature. Asking \$20 Call 1-904-229-0534 Pet Accessories 822 Miscellaneous 1040 Atsugi - Late spring cleaning listing rummage sale! In Step bike trailer/chariot only used once and is in new condition, asking \$75 firm. Fisher Price rainforest themed baby bouncer in like new condition, asking \$25. Fender Statocaster Sapphire blue made in Mexico right handed guitar in brand new condition (and never played!) asking \$400. I bought the guitar for spouse for Christmas when I was stateside and imported it myself and I bought the wrong hand guitar, comes with soft carry case. Do you speak Spanish and seeking Spanish princess books for your favorite princess? Disney M! Version de la historia la Cenicienta y La Madrastra still wrapped in package- asking \$5. Combi baby walker in like new condition bought out in town, will keep your little one entertained for hours! asking \$50. Please contact Ann 090-7220-4952 for inquiries. Yokota, Japan - Jon & Kate plus Eight - DVD - Seasons 1, 2, un Like new. Jon & Kate plus 8 Seasons 1 & 2, and Season 3 DVD packages! These cost about \$25/each new. Get it here for half-price! Asking \$25 for all 3 seasons! Please call 813-200-9377 or email judbean@gmail.com. Thanks and make it a great day!
Computers 360 Sasebo - computer games for sale. Will MPS anywhere. The games are Windows/Mac compatible and hardly used. The games are Call of Duty World at War, and modern warfare, Warcraft 2, Grand Theft Auto, Need for speed underground, flight simulator game, just to name a few. There are about thirty games in all. Will sell separately or all together. Please call or email for a full list or any questions. DSN 315-252-8131 or cell 080-3567-7311 or email jonjessbrandon@gmail.com Yokosuka, Japan - Apple Cinema display 24" monitor - Brand new original sealed with all accessories complete also comes with 12months international warranty. Email: bryanmolina25@yahoo.com Call: +447024077572 Yokota, Japan - HP 22in Flat screen Monitor Used about 2 months then computer crashed, bought a MAC so I have no use for it now. Asking \$200 Contact gaj222@yahoo.com or 080-4059-2674 Yokota, Japan - Japan GPS JR Road Portable Navigation System Windows powered, English GPS Navigation System for use in Japan. Searches by Address, Station, Markin Points, Points of Interest, Phone Number, & Map Code (English, Japanese, Chinese Capability) 4" LCD Screen with touch panel & speaker Paid \$500 asking \$450 Please call 210-547-9318 or email thepamperedstamper4u@yahoo.com Yokota, Japan - Sony Vaio Desk Top 1 year old Desk top. Wireless modem built into screen. Comes with brand new keyboard and mouse 22inch screen with built in web cam. Processor: Genuine Intel CPU T2080@1.73GHZ 1.73GHZ Memory: 3.00 GB RAM System type: 32-bit Operating System Asking \$1000 Please call Cynthia 1-733-634-738 or email cmfritth28@yahoo.com Yokota, Japan - The Sims 2 I have the Sims 2 and 9 expansions packs. I don't play anymore. Asking \$10 each Call 8158-368-6861 or email jid9m@yahoo.com	Furniture/Appliances 511 Yokota, Japan - 2 practically new Gibson Air conditioners only used for a few days. Bought from Bxtra for \$88.00 asking \$65 OBO, selling because they are no longer needed willing to deliver free! Thanks a lot. Please call 9164734539 or email theunstaedat@gmail.com Yokota, Japan - Honeywell Quiet Care 17000 Air Cleaner this is for the unit only. It needs the refill filter \$49.95 sold at the BX and carbon filter. Asking 20 OBO Call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com Yokota, Japan - Kenmore Freezer Due to PCS'ing, I am selling our chest freezer. This is great for a family. Works great, we use it every day. Asking \$75 OBO email or call Jane at 225-7522 Yokota - Kenmore Washer and Dryer for \$325! PCS'ing back to the states? Buy a washer and dryer here and have TMO ship it for you. Both are awesome models. I did short tour before here and I forgot I had them in my HHGs. My apartment has a Japanese Washer/Dryer already installed. Call me at 090-4227-5269 or email me at brandon.chamberlain@yokota.af.mil	Household Items 560 Yokota, Japan - Toy box 3 1/2ft by 3ft plastic toy chest. Tan with blue top (removable) \$30. Also I have PS1 Wii games and stuff I have a good old fashion PS1 with all kind as games controllers n such. Asking \$100 Please a m a i l e d _ m a j o r @ h o t m a i l . c o m Zama - Two Symphonic color televisions 27" for \$75 and 19" for \$50. E m a i l e d _ m a j o r @ h o t m a i l . c o m	Home Electronics 570 Yokota, Japan - 37" LCD TV & Bose System Package First off this is a great deal, were selling for about half off of what we paid. 37" RCA LCD TV SRS, sound Great condition about a year old. We bought in the states for \$800 Bose 2 speaker & Subwoofer Bought at the BX for \$500. 720-257-6786 or skip592@hotmail.com \$700 OBO for both or \$350 a piece Yokota, Japan - 37" RCA LCD TV w/ HDMI Input updated we're looking to get maybe a 42 or 47 inch TV. I think we've had this one for a little over a year. Nothing wrong with it, the TV's been great for us just looking to get something bigger I don't have the model number right now, but if you email me I'll get it. Please send emails to skip592@hotmail.com we'll sell to the highest bid we receive. Right now the offer is at \$280 Yokota, Japan - DS games and Xbox 360 game Ds games \$8.00 each. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Nickelodeon Danny Phantom Urban Jungle Xbox 360 game \$15.00 Cars Mater National Championship Call 407-373-1327 or email kristlehane@hotmail.com Yokota, Japan - Nintendo Wii, NIB Signed by Jared - The Subway Guy Nintendo Wii brand new in box. Box photographed by Jared Fogel (aka "The Subway Guy"). Items in box have been inventoried. Comes with Wii Sports \$25 OBO Also for sale! Nintendo Wii Fit - New in Box \$75 will sell both together for \$290 you can also call 229-375-5570 Yokota, Japan - Nintendo Wii Package - Like New - Includes Games! Like NEW - Includes Wii Sports, Love the Wii, but I do not have nearly enough time to enjoy it! Includes original packaging and Wii Sports \$175 and it's all yours! Please call 813-200-9377 or email judbean@gmail.com. Thank you and make it a great day! Yokota, Japan - Play station 2. It comes with everything and it works great. Asking \$50 if you are interested in buying it, please give me a call 080-3730-8811 Ask for Star or hewianavywife80@gmail.com Yokota, Japan - Xbox 360 games wanted. I want to buy: left 4 dead \$30 halo 3 \$30 dead space \$25 halo 1 \$10 halo 2 \$10 all games must be a good condition please, no scratches, soda stains. I would like to have the org. cases also, don't really care about the booklets. Call 314-558-3431 or email md_carey@hotmail.com Yokota, Japan - Diamond watchman goby 2inch saltwater fish \$10, Maroon yellow stripe clown fish 1.5 inch saltwater fish \$15 Call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com	Jobs Offered 630 U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, Japan Camp Zama, Japan Physical Therapist, Intermittent (240 hours) • Provides physical therapy service in the areas of physical disabilities and neuromuscular dysfunctions in patients ranging from adolescence to the very elderly. Qualifications: • A Bachelor's degree or higher in Physical Therapy from an accredited school in the United States. • Two years clinical physical therapy experience with training in manual therapy skills is preferred. • Must have a permanent, full, and unrestricted license to practice physical therapy in a State, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory of the United States. Other Requirements: • This position requires a signed statement due to requirements of seasonal influenza vaccination as a condition of employment. Selection of a non-current employee will be withdrawn due to refusal of seasonal influenza vaccination. If refusal is due to medical and/or religious reasons, a statement from a credible source is required. This is a contract position open to SOFA status applicants. Resumes may be sent to yoshiyasu.aoki@us.army.mil. ALL applicants shall register in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) which can be found at www.ccr.gov. Individuals not CCR registered are not eligible for a Government contract.	Pets 820 Yokota, Japan - Male Blue Min pin for sale great with kids. We just don't have time for him. A year old very good family dog Asking \$700 OBO Call 813-200-9345 or email little_mearny_babe@yahoo.com Zama - Long Haired Chihuahua puppy. Cream and white female. Born on June 25th, she'll be ready to go to her new home at 8 weeks old on August 13th. Email 458winmag@gmail.com for pictures. Call 080-3540-6107. \$500 obo. She's on Zama, but delivery can be arranged to Atsugi, Yokota, Yokosuka. Zama - Shiba Inu puppy for sale! He is 7 weeks old and comes with everything, Kennel, Leash, Food bowl, Shampoo, Brush and Food. He is very sweet, we have to give him away due to allergies. Asking \$350 OBO Call Stephen DSN 287-6101, CELL 08058798314 or by email: palmer_mia@yahoo.com Yokota - For Sale - Large Dog Kennel 39x30x22. \$35. If interested please call 763-354-3551 and ask for Mike. Yokota, Japan - 2 Ferrets brother and sister they have their short records. They come with cage food litter and lots of other stuff. They are fixed and dissented. They range from 180-300 each off post. We need to get rid of them due to friends kids are allergic. Call Jon or Deb at 267-6601 or 090-6560-0442 asking \$200 Yokota, Japan - A cute/well behaved dog for FREE I have a poodle mix puppy (about 10 months old) for free to a good home. He is well trained so he knows his limits. At the moment he is puppy pad trained, but he would be easy to train to go outside. He comes with everything we have for him, lots of toys, a kennel, 2 bags of food, clothes, bowls etc. He has all of his shots and he is fixed. We love him very much and he is very smart. We are only getting rid of him because we're not supposed to have a dog and we shouldn't have bought him in the first place. That is the only reason. Call me anytime and we can meet so you can meet him. If we're not home leave a message. Please call 407-373-1380	Homes/Apts for Rent - US 866 Cherry Point 3 BR/2 BA newer Home for Rent. 1/2 acre lot on quiet cul-de-sac, \$1250/Month in New Bern, NC (20 min to M C A S). Contact karlpearson@juno.com for pix and info. Sporting Goods 980 Yokota, Japan - GAZELLE EDGE With yoke Gazelle Edge, you'll use the muscles of both your upper and lower body in an easy gliding motion to burn calories, firm muscles and improve your cardiovascular endurance. Ideal for all fitness levels, the Gazelle's unsurpassed range of motions lets you go from a slow walk to a full run with no sudden stops. You can achieve a challenging aerobic workout without sacrificing your knees due to its low impact nature. Asking \$20 Call 1-904-229-0534 Pet Accessories 822 Miscellaneous 1040 Atsugi - Late spring cleaning listing rummage sale! In Step bike trailer/chariot only used once and is in new condition, asking \$75 firm. Fisher Price rainforest themed baby bouncer in like new condition, asking \$25. Fender Statocaster Sapphire blue made in Mexico right handed guitar in brand new condition (and never played!) asking \$400. I bought the guitar for spouse for Christmas when I was stateside and imported it myself and I bought the wrong hand guitar, comes with soft carry case. Do you speak Spanish and seeking Spanish princess books for your favorite princess? Disney M! Version de la historia la Cenicienta y La Madrastra still wrapped in package- asking \$5. Combi baby walker in like new condition bought out in town, will keep your little one entertained for hours! asking \$50. Please contact Ann 090-7220-4952 for inquiries. Yokota, Japan - Jon & Kate plus Eight - DVD - Seasons 1, 2, un Like new. Jon & Kate plus 8 Seasons 1 & 2, and Season 3 DVD packages! These cost about \$25/each new. Get it here for half-price! Asking \$25 for all 3 seasons! Please call 813-200-9377 or email judbean@gmail.com. Thanks and make it a great day!

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NASCAR: Mayfield tested positive for second time

Meth found in driver's sample from July 6

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

Jeremy Mayfield tested positive again for methamphetamine, NASCAR said, igniting another round of denials from the driver, who angrily accused the sanctioning body of paying his stepmother to lie about his alleged past drug use.

The positive result from a July 6 random test was included in a U.S. District Court filing Wednesday that asked the federal judge who lifted Mayfield's drug suspension to reinstate the ban. The filing included an affidavit from Mayfield's stepmother, Lisa, who said she witnessed the driver using methamphetamine at least 30 times over seven years.

"I don't trust anything NASCAR does, anything Dr. David Black does, never have, never will," Mayfield told The Associated Press in a phone interview. Black is the administrator for NASCAR's drug-testing program.

"And they picked the wrong woman to use against me because that [expletive] is trash and has got nothing on me but lies."

According to documents, Lisa Mayfield said she first saw the driver use meth in 1998 at a race shop in Mooresville, N.C. She said Mayfield cooked his own drugs until the ingredient pseudoephedrine was taken off the shelves and it became too difficult for Mayfield to obtain the ingredients. She said her stepson then began to purchase meth from others.

"Between 1998 and 2005, I am personally aware that Jeremy used methamphetamines often," she said in her affidavit. "I was concerned about his heavy use and talked to his father about it. I saw Jeremy use methamphetamine by snorting it up his nose at least 30 times during the 7 years I was around him. Jeremy used methamphetamine not only in my presence, but also when we were both in the presence of others."

Mayfield contested his stepmother's account.

"She's tried everything she can do to get money out of me. I won't help her, so I guess she found a way to get money from NASCAR by giving them an affidavit full of lies," he said.

Mayfield was suspended May 9 for failing a random drug test conducted eight days earlier. NASCAR later said he tested positive for methamphetamine.

He sued, and U.S. District Judge Graham Mullen issued an injunction July 1 that allowed Mayfield to return to competition. Mullen based his decision on Mayfield's argument that the testing system is flawed and there was a reasonable likelihood of a false positive. He also gave NASCAR the right to test Mayfield at any time.

NASCAR did just that five days later at Mayfield's home and said in its filings that the "A" sample had levels of methamphetamine consistent with habitual users who consume high doses.

"My only comment is that's their result," Mayfield attorney John Buric said. "But what I want you to keep in mind is that test was performed by the defendants in the case. Aegis Laboratories and Dr. Black are defendants in this case. I don't know if NASCAR has the right to ask the defendant to test Jeremy's urine sample. It ought to be done independently, but NASCAR didn't do that."



NASCAR driver Jeremy Mayfield tested positive for methamphetamine a second time, five days after a judge ruled the Mayfield should be allowed to race again after a failed drug test in May.

CHUCK BURTON/AP

On July 6, Mayfield also had a second test at a lab chosen by his attorneys. Buric said that test came back negative but was sent back to the lab Wednesday for "reconfirmation" after the NASCAR test results were received.

The filing also claims Mayfield and his attorneys have failed to select a qualified laboratory to test the backup "B" sample. Buric acknowledged the two sides are still haggling over a lab for the "B" sample and said NASCAR rejected the lab they picked.

Lisa Mayfield said her stepson told her he used meth before a season-ending NASCAR awards

ceremony while driving for Ray Evernham. She also said Mayfield used meth during a 1999 trip to Myrtle Beach that preceded a race at nearby Darlington Raceway.

Mayfield said all of Lisa Mayfield's claims were lies based on being monetarily cut off following her husband's death in 2007.

Mayfield also said he has independently been tested at least six times since his failed May 1 test, and all came back negative.

AP Sports Writer Mike Cranston in Charlotte, N.C. contributed to this report.

Fenway to host Bruins, Pens for Winter Classic

By JIMMY GOLEN
The Associated Press

BOSTON — With Boston Red Sox reliever Hideki Okajima playing catch in the outfield and a bright blue summer sky hovering over Fenway Park, Boston Bruins defenseman Aaron Ward stood on the infield of the major leagues' oldest ballpark and pretended to be miffed.

"That's how they got me down here," he said. "They told me I was taking batting practice."

Not exactly.

The NHL announced on Wednesday that the Bruins will play the Philadelphia Flyers at Fenway on New Year's Day in the annual Winter Classic, an outdoor game that has become one of the league's signature

traditions since it began in 2008. Unlike previous years, when the annual outdoor game was played at Buffalo's Ralph Wilson Stadium and Chicago's Wrigley Field, this year's NHL matchup will be part of a festival that will include public skating and a college hockey game.

Organizers are still working on bringing Hockey East rivals Boston College and defending NCAA champion Boston University to Fenway in the days after the Winter Classic, according to a person involved in the negotiations who spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal was not final.

"Boston is a perfect fit for the World Classic," Mayor Tom Menino said, adding that the public skating will "give families and children a chance to experience the ice just like their favorite players."

Judging from the reaction of the Bruins and Flyers who attended the announcement, it will be a thrill for them, as well. The players marveled at the field around them, posed for pictures at home plate and in front of the Green Monster and even went inside the manual scoreboard built into the famous left-field wall.

"We're lucky we have boards here, because back home we played outside and instead of boards we'd have bales of straw and hay to keep the puck from going too far off the ice," said Flyers defenseman Braydon Coburn, who grew up playing on lakes and ponds in Saskatchewan. "This is going to be just great, especially with the scenery with the Green Monster right behind us and playing at Fenway. Playing the Boston Bruins, one of our rivals, is going to be

real special."

Flyers backup goalie Brian Boucher, a native of Woonsocket, R.I., grew up as a Red Sox fan and has tickets to see them play later this month.

"That makes it even more special," he said.

The NHL also announced the rest of the 2009-10 schedule, with the Pittsburgh Penguins slated to celebrate their Stanley Cup title when they raise the championship banner to the Mellon Arena roof on Oct. 2 to kick off next season.

Pittsburgh, in its final season in Mellon Arena, will welcome the New York Rangers in its home opener. The following day all 30 teams will be in action, marking the first of two days when every NHL club will hit the ice.

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Saturday

AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.-MLB: Detroit at N.Y. Yankees.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-MLB: Arizona at St. Louis.

AFN-Pacific, 11 a.m.-MLB: Houston at L.A. Dodgers.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.-MLB: L.A. Angels at Oakland.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.-Cycling: 96th Tour de France, Stage 13, Vittel-Colmar (dld).

AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.-Golf: 138th British Open, third round, at Ayrshire, Scotland.

Sunday

AFN-Atlantic, 2 a.m.-MLB: Detroit at N.Y. Yankees.

AFN-Xtra, 2 a.m.-MLS: Houston at Toronto.

AFN-Atlantic, 5 a.m.-MLB: Baltimore at Chicago White Sox.

AFN-Sports, 5 a.m.-MLB: N.Y. Mets at Atlanta.

AFN-Xtra, 5 a.m.-MLB: L.A. Angels at Oakland.

AFN-Atlantic, 8 a.m.-MLB: Tampa Bay at Kansas City.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-MLB: Minnesota at Texas.

AFN-Xtra, 10:30 a.m.-Auto racing: NASCAR Nationwide Gateway 250 at Madison, Ill.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.-Cycling: 96th Tour de France, Stage 14, Colmar-Besancon (dld).

AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.-MLS: Houston at Toronto (dld).

AFN-Xtra, 6 p.m.-MLB: Philadelphia at Florida (dld).

AFN-Sports, 7 p.m.-Golf: 138th British Open, final round, at Ayrshire, Scotland.

AFN-Xtra, 9 p.m.-MLB: Houston at L.A. Dodgers (dld).

AFN-Xtra, midnight-MLS: San Jose at Chicago (dld).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Boxing

July 18

At Lancashire, England, Andriy Kotelnik, Germany, vs. Amir Khan, Britain, 12, for Kotelnik's WBA light welterweight title; Enzo Maccarinelli, Britain, vs. Denis Lebedev, Russia, 12, for the vacant WBO Inter-Continental cruiserweight title; Matthew Hall, Britain, vs. Anthony Small, Britain, 12, for Hall's Commonwealth junior middleweight title; Kell Brook, Britain, vs. Michael Lomax, Britain, 12, welterweights.

At Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Tomas Rojas, Mexico, vs. Ricardo Nunez, Panama, 12, for the interim WBC super flyweight title.

July 24

At the Don Haskins Convention Center, El Paso, Texas, Antonio Escalante, El Paso, Texas, vs. Cornelius Lock, Detroit, 10, featherweights.

At UIC Pavilion, Chicago, Bruce Selden, Atlantic City, N.J., vs. Fres Oquendo, Chicago, 12, for the interim NABA heavyweight title.

July 25

At Yucatan, Mexico, Julio Cesar Chavez Jr., Mexico, vs. Jason LeHoullier, Portland, Maine, 10, light middleweights; Giovanni Segura, Mexico, vs. Sonny Boy Jaro, Philippines, 12, for the WBA light flyweight title; Urbano Antillon, Mexico, vs. Miguel Acosta, Venezuela, 12, for the interim WBA lightweight title; Juan Alberto Rosas, Mexico, vs. Alejandro Martinez, Mexico, 12, super flyweights; Jesus Soto Karass, Los Angeles, vs. Antonio Diaz, Mexico, 10, welterweights.

July 31

At Johannesburg, South Africa, Mzonke Fana, South Africa, vs. Jasper Senoka, South Africa, 12, IBF junior lightweight eliminator.

At Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Hollywood, Fla., Julio Diaz, Coachella, Calif., vs. Victor Manuel Cayo, Dominican Republic, 10, lightweights; Chazz Witherspoon, Paulsboro, N.J., vs. Carl Davis Drummond, Costa Rica, 10, heavyweight.

At Temecula, Calif., Marvin Quintero, Mexico, vs. Tyrone Harris, Lansing, Mich., 10, junior lightweights.

Aug. 1

At Agua Caliente Casino, Rancho Mirage, Calif., Timothy Bradley, Palm Springs, Calif., vs. Nate Campbell, Jacksonville, Fla., 12, for Bradley's WBO super lightweight title; Devon Alexander, St. Louis, vs. Junior Witter, England, 12, for the vacant WBC super lightweight title.

Aug. 15

At the Gold Coast Star Arena, Biloxi, Miss., Roy Jones Jr., Pensacola, Fla., vs. Jeff Lacy, St. Petersburg, Fla., 12, light heavyweights; Danny Green, Australia, vs. Julio Cesar Dominguez, Argentina, 12, cruiserweights; Verquan Kimbrough, Pittsburgh, vs. Mike Anchondo, La Puente, Calif., 10, lightweights.

At Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nonito Donaire, San Leandro, Calif., vs. Hugo Fidel Cazares, Mexico, 12, for the interim WBA super flyweight title; Steven Luevano, La Puente, Calif., vs. Bernabe Concepcion, Philippines, 12, for Luevano's WBO featherweight title.

Tennis

World Teams Tennis

Eastern Conference

	W	L	Pct.	GB
N.Y. Sportimes	7	2	.778	—
Washington	5	4	.556	2
Boston	4	6	.400	3½
Philadelphia	4	6	.400	3½
N.Y. Buzz	3	5	.375	3½

Western Conference

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Springfield	8	0	1.000	—
Newport Beach	6	4	.600	3
Sacramento	3	6	.333	5½
St. Louis	3	6	.333	5½
Kansas City	2	6	.250	6

Wednesday's matches

N.Y. Sportimes 21, Boston 20

Springfield 21, Sacramento 19

Newport Beach 21, St. Louis 16

Thursday's matches

Springfield at Boston

N.Y. Sportimes at Washington

Kansas City at N.Y. Buzz

Friday's matches

Kansas City at N.Y. Sportimes

Springfield at N.Y. Buzz

Sacramento at St. Louis

Philadelphia at Newport Beach

Mercedes Cup

Thursday

At TC Weissenhof Stuttgart, Germany

Purse: \$627,000 (WT250)

Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Second round

Singles

Nikolay Davydenko (2), Russia, def. Michel Berrer, Germany, 6-3, 6-3.

Fabio Fognini, Italy, def. Paul-Henri Mathieu, France, 6-4, 4-1, retired.

Jeremy Chardy, France, def. Martin Vassallo Arguello, Argentina, 2-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Nicolas Kiefer, Germany, def. Simon Greul, Germany, 6-3, 6-4.

First round

Martin Vassallo Arguello, Argentina, def. Andrey Golubev, Kazakhstan, 3-6, 6-3, 6-0.

Paul-Henri Mathieu, France, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4).

Second round

Alexandre Sidorenko, France, def. Oscar Hernandez, Spain, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Victor Hanescu (4), Romania, def. Rainer Schuettler, Germany, 6-2, 6-1.

Prague Open

Thursday

At ICLTK Praha Prague, Czech Republic

Purse: \$145,000 (Tier IV)

Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Singles

Kateryna Bondarenko, Ukraine, def. Kristina Barrois, Germany, 7-5, 7-5.

Cycling

Tour de France

Thursday

At Vittel, France

12th Stage

131.4 miles from Tonnerre to Vittel

1. Nicki Sorensen, Denmark, Team Saxo Bank, 4 hours, 52 minutes, 24 seconds.

2. Laurent Lefevre, France, Bbox Bouygues Telecom, 48 seconds behind.

3. Franco Pellizotti, Italy, Liquigas, same time.

4. Markus Fothgen, Germany, Team Milram, same time.

5. Egoi Martinez, Spain, Euskaltel-Euskadi, same time.

6. Sylvain Calzati, France, Agritubel, same time.

7. Remi Pauriol, France, Cofidis, 1:33.

8. Mark Cavendish, Britain, Team Columbia-High Road, 5:48.

9. Thor Hushovd, Norway, Cervelo Test Team, same time.

10. Marco Bandiera, Spain, Lampre-NGC, same time.

11. Mauro Santambrogio, Italy, Lampre-NGC, same time.

12. Steven de Jongh, Netherlands, Quick Step, same time.

13. Cyril Lemoine, France, Skil-Shimano, same time.

14. Nicolai Trussov, Russia, Team Katusha, same time.

15. Yaroslav Popovych, Ukraine, Astana, same time.

16. Lance Armstrong, United States, Astana, same time.

17. Bradley Wiggins, Britain, Garmin-Slipstream, same time.

18. Christian Vande Velde, United States, Garmin-Slipstream, same time.

19. Yauheni Hutarovich, Belarus, Francaise des Jeux, same time.

20. Jose Joaquin Rojas, Spain, Caisse d'Epargne, same time.

Also

21. Alberto Contador, Spain, Astana, same time.

25. George Hincapie, United States, Team Columbia-High Road, same time.

48. Rinaldo Nacentini, Italy, AG2R-La Mondiale, same time.

77. Tyler Farrar, United States, Garmin-Slipstream, same time.

162. Levi Leipheimer, United States, Astana, same time.

Overall Standings (After 12 stages)

1. Rinaldo Nacentini, Italy, AG2R-La Mondiale, 48:27:21.

2. Alberto Contador, Spain, Astana, :06.

3. Lance Armstrong, United States, Astana, :08.

4. Levi Leipheimer, United States, Astana, :39.

5. Bradley Wiggins, Britain, Garmin-Slipstream, :46.

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Soccer

CONCACAF Gold Cup

QUARTERFINALS

Saturday, July 18

At Philadelphia

Canada vs. Honduras

United States vs. Panama

Sunday, July 19

At Arlington, Texas

Guadeloupe vs. Costa Rica

Mexico vs. Haiti

SEMIFINALS

Thursday, July 23

At Chicago

Philadelphia quarterfinal winners

Arlington quarterfinal winners

CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunday, July 26

At East Rutherford, N.J.

Semifinals winners

MLS

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	6	3	7	25	23	20
Toronto FC	7	6	4	25	24	26
D.C.	5	3	9	24	26	25
Columbus	5	3	9	24	22	21
Kansas City	5	6	5	20	19	18
New England	4	5	5	17	15	21
New York	2	13	4	10	15	30

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Houston	9	4	4	31	22	12
Seattle	7	5	3	28	26	16
Chivas USA	8	5	3	27	19	13
Colorado	4	6	4	24	23	20
Los Angeles	5	3	9	24	19	18
Real Salt Lake	5	6	5	20	23	18
FC Dallas	4	8	5	17	20	26
San Jose	3	9	4	13	19	31

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Thursday's game

Los Angeles at New York

Saturday's games

Houston at Toronto FC

Colorado at D.C. United

Real Salt Lake at Columbus

San Jose at Chicago

Sunday's game

Chivas USA at New England

WPS

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	11	2	4	37	24	6
Saint Louis	7	5	2	23	13	12
Boston	6	6	3	21	16	16
Sky Blue FC	5	6	4	19	15	16
Washington	4	6	5	17	22	26
Chicago	4	7	5	17	13	18
FC Gold Pride	3	8	3	12	12	21

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Wednesday's games

Boston 1, Chicago 0

Washington 4, Sky Blue 4

Saturday's game

Saint Louis at Washington

Sunday's games

Chicago at Sky Blue FC

Boston at FC Gold Pride

Pro basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	10	2	.833	—
Connecticut	6	6	.500	4
Washington	6	6	.500	4
Atlanta	7	8	.467	4½
Chicago	7	8	.467	4½
Detroit	4	7	.364	5½
New York	4	7	.364	5½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	11	4	.733	—
Minnesota	9	6	.600	2
Seattle	8	6	.571	2½
San Antonio	6	6	.500	3½
Los Angeles	4	8	.333	5½
Sacramento	3	11	.214	7½

Wednesday's games

San Antonio 79, Washington 78

Indiana 84, Chicago 74

Atlanta 91, Minnesota 77

Phoenix 100, Sacramento 81

Detroit 66, Seattle 63

Thursday's games

No games scheduled

Friday's games

Atlanta at Indiana

Connecticut at San Antonio

Seattle at Sacramento

Deals

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL

National League

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Agreed to terms with RHP Pedro Martinez on a one-year contract and placed him on the 15-day DL.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

CHICAGO BULLS—Re-signed G Lindsey Hunter.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

BALTIMORE RAVENS—Agreed to terms with LB Terrell Suggs on a six-year contract.

CLEVELAND BROWNS—Signed CB Don Carey, CB Coye Frances and RB James Davis. Waived LB Jonathan Foster, DB Nate Ness and RB Marcus Thomas.

MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed WR Brian Hartline.

ST. LOUIS RAMS—Signed S Oshiomogho Atogwe to a one-year contract.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

CAROLINA HURRICANES—Agreed to terms with D Andrew Alberts on a two-year contract and F Mike Angelidis and D Zack Fitzgerald on one-year contracts.

BLACKHAWKS—Named Marc Bergevin director of player personnel.

LOS ANGELES KINGS—Agreed to terms with D Joe Piskula on a one-year contract.

MONTREAL CANADIENS—Signed D Shawn Belle and F Guillaume Latendresse to one-year contracts.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Signed C John Tavares to a three-year contract.

PHOENIX COYOTES—Signed LW Lauri Korpikoski to a two-year contract.

SAN JOSE SHARKS—Signed C Scott Nichol.

WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Signed D Shaone Morrisonn, F Eric Fehr, F Chris Bourque and F Kyle Wilson to one-year contracts and F Steve Pinizzotto to a two-year contract.

COLLEGE

ALBANY, N.Y.—Named Akeem Cedeno assistant football coach.

GEORGE WASHINGTON—Named Lindsay Lewis women's assistant lacrosse coach.

JUNIATA—Promoted sports information director Pete Lefresne to assistant athletic director for external relations and women's soccer coach and director of soccer Scott McKenzie to assistant director of athletics. Both will continue serve in their original positions.

LONGWOOD—Named Missy Ackerman women's lacrosse coach.

MARIST—Named Chris Tracz basketball coach.

NOTRE DAME—Named Harold Swanagan coordinator of men's basketball operations.

AP spotlight

July 18

1896 — James Foulis wins the U.S. Men's Open golf championship at Shinnecock Hills, Southampton, N.Y.

1927 — Ty Cobb of the Philadelphia Athletics doubles off the glove of Harry Heilmann for his 4,000th hit.

1951 — Jersey Joe Walcott, 37, becomes the oldest fighter to win the world heavyweight title with a seventh-round knockout of Ezzard Charles at Forbes Field in Pittsburgh.

1970 — San Francisco's Willie Mays gets his 3,000th career hit, off Montreal's Mike Wegener in the second inning.

1975 — The trial of Dave Forbes, the first pro athlete to be indicted for a crime committed during play, ends in a hung jury. Forbes, of the Boston Bruins, was indicted for excessive force used on an opponent. Forbes' victim was Henry Boucha in a game on Jan. 4 against the North Stars at Minnesota. The prosecution decides not to seek a retrial.

1987 — New York's Don Mattingly ties Dale Long's 31-year-old major league record when he homers for the eighth consecutive game in the Yankees' 7-2 loss to the Texas Rangers.

1993 — Greg Norman shoots a 64 on the final day to set a record with a 13-under 267 to win the British Open. Norman beats defending champion Nick Faldo by two strokes.

1995 — Britain's Jonathan Edwards breaks the 10-year-old world triple jump record, leaping 59 feet in the Salamanca Provincial meet. Edwards tops the previous mark of 58-11 set in 1985 by Willie Banks of the United States.

1996 — Shaquille 'Near' a seven-year, \$121 million contract with the Los Angeles Lakers. The Lakers' ticket price for the cheapest seats is increased from \$9.50 to \$21.

1999 — Jean Van de Velde's triple bogey on the 72nd hole sets the stage for Paul Lawrie to become the first Scotsman to win the British Open in his native land since Tommy Armour in 1931. Lawrie, 10 strokes behind when the final round began, wins the four-hole playoff over Van de Velde and Justin Leonard, making birdies on the last two holes to complete the biggest comeback in a major.

1999 — David Cone dazzles the Montreal Expos, throwing the 14th perfect game in modern history to lead the New York Yankees to a 6-0 victory.

A WEEKLY LOOK RACING STRIPES AT MOTORSPORTS

"I wish I got the same attention from the league as I get from my fans," Paul Tracy says. "I'm not going to get frustrated. I'm just happy to be in the car."

TOM RYDER, RIGHT, AND DAVID DUPREY/AP



Canadian Paul Tracy has a ton of IndyCar racing experience, a loyal group of fans and a reputation for being controversial. What the 40-year-old driver doesn't have is a regular ride for the 2010 season.



Ride ... wait ... ride ... wait

By JOHN KEKIS
The Associated Press

TORONTO

Danica Patrick and Paul Tracy are two of a kind and what the IndyCar Series needs in these difficult economic times. They attract attention — on and off the racetrack.

There's one big difference, though. Patrick, 27, whose contract with Andretti Green Racing is up after this season, has the luxury of knowing she can drive next year for any team she wants. Tracy, 40, wonders if he'll have a regular ride in 2010.

And the current IndyCar Series media guide doesn't help matters: Buddy Rice, who hasn't raced this year, is in it. Tracy, who's run four races, isn't. "I wish I got the same attention from the league as I get

from my fans," said Tracy, who grew up in the West Hill neighborhood of suburban Toronto. "I'm not going to get frustrated. I'm just happy to be in the car."

Tracy raced for 17 years in the series that began as CART and then became Champ Car. He won the championship in 2003 and his 31 victories are the most of any active driver in the open-wheel sport.

Tracy, who lives in Las Vegas, lost his full-time ride before the start of the 2008 season when team owner Gerald Forsythe decided not to make the transition from Champ Car to the IndyCar Series as part of the long-awaited unification of the American open-wheel series.

It was a blow for a driver many consider among the most colorful and talented in the business.

"It's been extremely frustrat-

ing for him," said former open-wheel champion Jimmy Vasser, who co-owns KV Racing Technology (KVRT) with Kevin Kalkhoven. "We had the merger and he wasn't able to be involved. Last year he was tied up with a team that got out at the last minute."

Sitting and watching has been perhaps the greatest challenge for Tracy, whose 268 career starts rank seventh in open-wheel competition. "I want to be in a car, and I think, for the most part, most teams would like to see me in a car," he said. "It's just a question of sponsorship, of money. You have to have that to run."

KVRT has given Tracy renewed hope, signing him to drive its No. 15 car in four races as the team searches for a full-time sponsor.

"We've got some pretty good support with Geico this year, and

they're going to be involved at some level," Vasser said. "He's great for sponsors, great for the sport. They're certainly getting a return on their investment with him."

There's a reason Tracy is called the Thrill from West Hill and why his legion of fans across Canada and the United States can aptly be described as rabid — you either love the guy's aggressive, emotional style or despise it.

Just ask Helio Castroneves. The popular Brazilian driver and "Dancing with the Stars" winner was showered with a cascade of boos Sunday after he rammed Tracy while both were battling for second in the closing laps of the Honda Indy of Toronto.

Or Frenchman Sebastien Bourdais, who had a long-running feud with Tracy before leaving Champ Car to drive in Formula One.

Or French Canadian driver Alex Tagliani, who has tangled numerous times on track with Tracy. Tagliani ended up in a shoving match in the pits with Tracy after an accident three years ago at San Jose, later suggesting that maybe Tracy "should wear a straitjacket because that's the only thing that could keep him under control."

"People get excited when I drive," Tracy said.

They have since he became the youngest Canadian Formula Ford champion in history when he won the title at age 16 in 1985. Six years later, Tracy made his rookie debut with Dale Coyne Racing at Long Beach and in 1992 signed with Team Penske in midseason to serve as a test driver. He wound up starting 11 races, had three podium finishes, including runner-up efforts at Michigan and Mid-Ohio, and his career took off.

Tracy finished third in the series championship in 1993 and tied champion Nigel Mansell for most victories with five.

Tracy's aggressive, no-holds-barred style has probably cost him a championship or two, but Canadians revel in his lone title six years ago. He became the first driver in 32 years to win the first three races of a season, taking St. Petersburg, Monterey and Long Beach after earning front-row starts in all three. And in Toronto he had perhaps his finest moment, leading all 115 laps in front of his hometown crowd on the tricky street course. That prompted the fans to sing the Canadian national anthem after he took the checkered flag.

Tracy's best finish this year was ninth at Indianapolis and he hasn't won since 2007. Still, Vasser is not alone in seeing a driver with the skill and desire to compete at the highest level.

"He's plenty talented, he's in good shape," said former open-wheel star Al Unser Jr., a driver coach for the IndyCar Series. "If he could just do it more often, then he's in the car all the time, he's at all the races, he's racing with the front-runners of the sport and he'd be up front."

FAST FACTS

SPRINT CUP

Last race: Mark Martin raced to his series-high fourth victory of the year, leading 195 of 267 laps at Chicagoland Speedway. The 50-year-old Martin has 39 career victories. Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon finished second.

Worth nothing: Three-time defending champion Jimmie Johnson and former champion Kurt Busch haven't spoken since last week's LifeLock.com 400. Johnson bumped into Busch late in the race when the two were racing three-wide with Jeff Gordon. Busch retaliated by turning his No. 2 Dodge into the No. 48 Chevrolet driven by Johnson. ... Richard Childress Racing has said it expects Kevin Harvick to drive with the team through the 2010 season. Harvick wants to join Tony Stewart's Newman-Haas Racing team.

Next race: Allstate 400 at the Brickyard, July 26, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Indianapolis.

DRIVER STANDINGS

Through 19 of 36 races

1. Tony Stewart	2,884
2. Jeff Gordon	2,709
3. Jimmie Johnson	2,672
4. Kurt Busch	2,526
5. Denny Hamlin	2,457
6. Carl Edwards	2,438
7. Ryan Newman	2,385
8. Kasey Kahne	2,336
9. Juan Pablo Montoya	2,321
10. Kyle Busch	2,298
11. Mark Martin	2,296
12. Matt Kenseth	2,295
13. Greg Biffle	2,285
14. David Reutimann	2,219
15. Clint Bowyer	2,169
16. Brian Vickers	2,149
17. Jeff Burton	2,113
18. Marcos Ambrose	2,078
19. Jamie McMurray	1,960
20. Joey Logano	1,956
21. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	1,928
22. Casey Mears	1,887
23. Elliott Sadler	1,881
24. Martin Truex Jr.	1,845
25. Kevin Harvick	1,789

NATIONWIDE SERIES

This week: Missouri-Illinois Dodge Dealers 250 at Madison, Ill. (10:30 a.m. Sunday, AFN-Xtra).

Next race: Kroger 200, July 25, O'Reilly Raceway Park, Clermont, Ind.

Driver Standings

1. Kyle Busch	2,931
2. Carl Edwards	2,739
3. Brad Keselowski	2,597
4. Jason Leffler	2,527
5. Joey Logano	2,395
6. Justin Allgaier	2,140
7. Mike Bliss	2,129
8. Brendan Gaughan	2,080
9. Steve Wallace	2,065
10. Jason Keller	2,013

CAMPING WORLD TRUCKS

Last race: Built Ford Tough 225 at Sparta, Ky.

Next race: AAA Insurance 200, July 24, O'Reilly Raceway Park, Clermont, Ind.

Driver Standings

1. Ron Hornaday Jr.	1,713
2. Matt Crafton	1,637
3. Mike Skinner	1,579
4. Todd Bodine	1,564
5. David Starr	1,482
6. Brian Scott	1,468
7. Tayler Malsam	1,418
8. Terry Cook	1,415
9. Rick Crawford	1,397
10. Colin Braun	1,381

INDYCAR SERIES

Last race: Dario Franchitti won on the streets of Toronto to vault past Target Chip Ganassi teammate Scott Dixon for the series points lead.

Next race: Edmonton Indy, July 26, Edmonton City Centre Airport, Edmonton, Alberta.

Driver Standings

1. Dario Franchitti	347
2. Scott Dixon	345
3. Ryan Briscoe	334
4. Helio Castroneves	269
5. Danica Patrick	266
6. Dan Wheldon	240
7. Marco Andretti	239
8. Tony Kanaan	227

FORMULA ONE

Last race: Mark Webber won the German Grand Prix for his first Formula One victory, beating Red Bull teammate Sebastian Vettel by 9.2 seconds.

Next race: Hungarian Grand Prix, July 26, Hungaroring, Budapest, Hungary.

Driver Standings

1. Jensen Button	68
2. Sebastian Vettel	47
3. Mark Webber	45½
4. Rubens Barrichello	44
5. Felipe Massa	22
6. Jarno Trulli	21½
7. Nico Rosberg	20½
8. Timo Glock	13

NHRA

This week: NHRA Northwest Nationals at Kent, Wash. (6 p.m. Sunday, AFN-Xtra).

Next event: Fram Autolite Nationals, July 24-26, Infield Raceway, Sonoma, Calif.

Driver Standings Top fuel

1. Antron Brown	1,056
2. Larry Dixon	940
3. Tony Schumacher	938
4. Brandon Bernstein	881
5. Cory McClenathan	779

Funny car

1. Ron Capps	965
2. (tie) Ashley Force Hood	965
3. Tony Pedregon	911
4. Jack Beckman	804
5. Del Worsham	759

Pro stock

1. Jeg Coughlin	1,145
2. Mike Edwards	1,062
3. Jason Line	991
4. Greg Anderson	915
5. Allen Johnson	855

Pro stock motorcycle

1. Eddie Krawiec	739
2. Andrew Hines	651
3. Matt Smith	559
4. Craig Treble	535
5. Douglas Horne	506

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NFL briefs

League giving fans chance to sound off

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The No Fun League is loosening up. The NFL — the National Football League, that is — plans to let fans post comments on its Web site and to reach deals to make its video more widely available.

That a business wants to use multimedia to interact with customers is hardly news in 2009. But when that business is so image-conscious it earned the No Fun nickname, relinquishing highly valued control is a major step.

As commissioner Roger Goodell said recently, "One of the things that's been a foundation of our success is controlling our content." On a panel discussing e-commerce in late June in Philadelphia, Goodell called that balancing act "a fundamental question we're debating internally."

"What worries us is that they take content and sometimes those messages aren't particularly positive," he said. "We worry about that a little bit, the impact on the brand."

But, he added, "I'm on the side of saying that that's the way the world is moving."

NFL executive Brian Rolapp likes to quote a famous line from the former CEO of Intel: "A fundamental rule in technology says that whatever can be done will be done."

So if fans want to rip the league's officiating, or mock its leadership, they're going to do it somewhere in cyberspace whether or not the NFL sanctions it.

The league began allowing fans to comment — but only on articles — on NFL.com early last season.

That will expand dramatically this coming season, Rolapp, the league's senior vice president in charge of media strategy, told The Associated Press.

Fans will be able to comment on specific games, teams, players. They'll also have the ability to create individual profiles in the NFL's own version of social networking. Automatic filters and staff will monitor the comments to remove offensive language and hate speech.

"But if somebody says a club

made a terrible draft pick, we're not going to monitor that," Rolapp said.

Dansby gets franchise tag for second year in row

PHOENIX — Karlos Dansby will be the Arizona Cardinals' franchise player for the second successive season.

The linebacker failed to reach a long-term agreement with the team by Wednesday's deadline, meaning he will keep the franchise tag for this season.

It also means he will earn the average salary of the top five-paid players at his position, about \$9.7 million.

Colts adding sponsor patch to practice jerseys

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts are adding a sponsor logo to their practice jerseys.

The team said Wednesday it has reached an agreement for players to wear an Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance patch when they open training camp Aug. 3 in Terre Haute, Ind.

NFL owners voted in March to permit the sponsor patches. The league does not allow corporate logos to be displayed on game jerseys. The New York Jets will have the logo of Atlantic Health, a New Jersey-based health care provider, on their practice jerseys.

McNair left no will; widow will oversee estate

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The widow of slain former NFL quarterback Steve McNair said in court documents that her husband left no will and a judge in Nashville has ruled that she will oversee his estate.

Davidson County Probate Judge Randy Kennedy granted Mechelle McNair's request to administer the estate and gave her 60 days to file an inventory of her late husband's assets. She said in court documents that she did not know her late husband's worth, but documents contend it is "of sufficient size to be administered."

Mechelle McNair listed herself and her two sons, Tyler and Trenton McNair, as the heirs to the estate.

British Open scoreboard

Thursday At Ailsa Course at Turnberry Turnberry, Scotland Purse: \$6.8 million Yardage: 7,204; Par: 70 (35-55) First Round (a-amateur)

Miguel A.J. Jimenez	31-33-64
Tom Watson	33-32-65
Ben Curtis	33-32-65
Kenichi Kuboya	35-30-65
John Senden	35-31-66
Steve Stricker	34-32-66
Camilo Villegas	35-31-66
Stewart Cink	32-34-66
Mathew Goggin	32-34-66
Mark Calcavecchia	34-33-67
Mark O'Meara	33-34-67
Vijay Singh	33-34-67
Boo Weekley	34-33-67
Brandon Grace	35-32-67
Steve Marino	36-31-67
Mike Weir	33-34-67
Retief Goosen	34-33-67
Jim Furyk	33-34-67
James Kingston	33-34-67
Richard Sterne	32-35-67
Anthony Wall	35-33-68
Graeme McDowell	33-35-68
Sean O'Hair	35-33-68
Anders Hansen	34-34-68
Lee Westwood	33-35-68
Ryo Ishikawa	35-33-68
David Howell	31-37-68
D.J. Trahan	34-34-68
Soren Kjeldsen	34-34-68
Andres Romero	32-36-68
Soren Hansen	32-36-68
J.B. Holmes	34-34-68
Paul Casey	31-37-68
John Daly	33-35-68
Tom Lehman	35-33-68
Terry Pilkadaris	34-34-68
G.F. Castano	35-34-69
Thongchai Jaidee	35-34-69
Billy Mayfair	36-33-69
Ross Fisher	35-34-69
Ernie Els	32-36-69
Martin Kaymer	36-33-69
Justin Rose	36-33-69
Rory McIlroy	34-35-69
Angel Cabrera	34-35-69
Pdraig Harrington	34-35-69
Davis Love III	37-32-69

Kevin Sutherland	35-34-69
David Drysdale	34-35-69
Steve Curry	34-35-69
Paul Broadhurst	36-34-70
Jeff Overton	36-34-70
Nick Dougherty	37-33-70
Sergio Garcia	34-36-70
Peter Hanson	34-36-70
Louis Oosthuizen	36-34-70
Robert Allenby	34-36-70
Justin Leonard	36-34-70
Chris Wood	35-35-70
Bryce Molder	36-34-70
Matt Kuchar	33-37-70
Zach Johnson	34-36-70
Fredrik Jacobson	32-38-70
Richard S. Johnson	37-33-70
Josh Geary	36-34-70
Elliot Saltman	36-34-70
David Small	34-36-70
Nick Watney	37-34-71
Charl Schwartzel	37-34-71
David Duval	37-34-71
Adam Scott	35-36-71
Kenny Perry	34-37-71
Henrik Stenson	37-34-71
a-Matteo Manassero	35-36-71
Luke Donald	37-34-71
Darren Clarke	35-36-71
Tiger Woods	34-37-71
Richard Green	37-34-71
Ken Duke	38-33-71
Mark Brown	37-34-71
Johan Edfors	35-36-71
Markus Brier	36-35-71
Ben Crane	36-35-71
Gaganjeet Bhullar	36-35-71
Alvaro Quiros	34-37-71
Tim Clark	37-34-71
Colin Montgomerie	34-37-71
Tomohiro Kondo	34-37-71
Paul Lawrie	36-35-71
Stuart Appleby	34-37-71
Paul McGinley	35-36-71
Charley Hoffman	37-34-71
Francesco Molinari	32-39-71
Thomas Levett	37-34-71
Thomas Aiken	37-34-71
Peter Hedblom	33-38-71
F. Andersson Hed	35-36-71
Graeme Storm	38-34-72
Rafa Echenique	35-37-72
Oliver Wilson	35-37-72
Briny Baird	37-35-72
Brandt Snedeker	36-36-72

Stephen Ames	36-36-72
Lucas Glover	37-35-72
Hunter Mahan	38-34-72
David Toms	34-38-72
Paul Goydos	37-35-72
Gary Orr	37-35-72
Richard Finch	35-38-73
Bubba Watson	37-36-73
Chad Campbell	36-37-73
Prayad Marksang	35-38-73
Robert Rock	37-38-73
David Higgins	38-35-73
Rhys Davies	38-35-73
Brian Gay	38-35-73
Charles Howell III	37-36-73
Anthony Kim	38-35-73
Timothy Wood	38-35-73
Rory Sabbatini	39-35-74
Rod Pampling	36-38-74
Martin Laird	36-38-74
Thomas Haylock	35-39-74
Tim Stewart	37-37-74
Jeremy Kavanagh	32-42-74
K.J. Choi	38-36-74
Ryuji Imada	37-37-74
Carl Pettersson	36-38-74
a-Stephan Gross	37-37-74
Peter Baker	36-38-74
Azuma Yano	36-39-75
Raphael Jacquelin	37-38-75
Marc Cayeux	37-38-75
Lloyd Saltman	41-34-75
Daniel Wardrop	37-38-75
Sandy Lyle	39-36-75
Todd Hamilton	42-33-75
Ian Poulter	38-37-75
Geoff Ogilvy	36-39-75
Yuta Ikeda	38-38-76
Daniel Gaunt	39-37-76
James Driscoll	38-38-76
Koumel Odo	36-40-76
Greg Norman	38-39-77
Wen-Chong Liang	38-39-77
Richie Ramsay	38-39-77
Michael Wright	38-39-77
Peter Elleby	37-40-77
Michael Campbell	39-39-78
Dustin Johnson	38-40-78
Damien McGrane	37-41-78
Nick Faldo	36-42-78
Bruce Vaughn	36-42-78
Pablo Larrazabal	37-42-79
Oliver Fisher	40-39-79
Jaco Ahlers	39-44-83

Open: Big day for past champs

OPEN, FROM BACK PAGE

tioned atop the leaderboard.

Golf's oldest major keeps bringing out the best in the old-timers. Last year, Greg Norman was 53 when he held the 54-hole lead at Birkdale, only to fade on the final day. With red numbers there for the taking, Stewart Cink, Steve Stricker, John Senden, Mathew Goggin and Camilo Villegas put up 66s.

To get the old-timer's theme rolling, Mark Calcavecchia, 49, the 1989 Open champion, went out in the first group of the day with his wife on the bag and shot 67.

He was matched by Mark O'Meara, 52, the 1998 winner who plays on the senior tour, and three-time major champion Vijay Singh, the kid of that group at 46. The players at 67 also included former Masters champion Mike Weir, two-time U.S. Open winner Retief Goosen and Boo Weekley.

John Daly managed a 68, his best round since winning the claret jug at St. Andrews in 1995. Adorned in an eye-catching, lime-



JON SUPER/AP

First-round leader Miguel Angel Jimenez of Spain drives the ball off the 16th tee on the way to a 6-under 64 on Thursday.

green outfit, he played much better than a year ago, when he shot an amateurish 80-89 at Birkdale.

Some of the young stars struggled, most notably Anthony Kim, 24.

The emotional leader of America's winning Ryder Cup team, Kim took a 9 at the second hole, hit a ball into the water and struggled with an upper-back in-

jury, requiring treatment on the course.

Pdraig Harrington is trying to become the first since Peter Thomson in 1954-56 to win the Open three years in a row. The Irishman quietly went about his work, tapping in for a 69 that was an improvement on his shaky play this year while he attempts to make changes in his swing.

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STARS AND STRIPES

Enter by August 10

Mariners face second-half question

Should Seattle try to improve for this year's race, or stockpile talent for the future?

By GREGG BELL
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Thanks to unexpected winning, Jarrod Washburn and his Seattle Mariners have turned this season's rebuilding project into a summer game show.

Deal or no deal?
Last summer, Washburn heard he might be traded to the Minnesota Twins. The veteran left-hander was excited at the potential of playing a couple of hours from his hometown in rural Wisconsin. But top team executives scrapped the plan, and the disappointed Washburn stayed.

Last month, it appeared rebuilding Seattle would trade the expiring contracts of Washburn and fellow veteran pitcher Erik Bedard — perhaps even Gold Glove third baseman Adrian Beltré, who is in the final year of a contract paying him \$13.4 million this season.

Now, Bedard is coming off an injury and has yet to prove he's worthy of a good deal. Washburn is pitching as well as anyone in the league. Beltré had shoulder surgery and is out at least until August.

Still, the surprising Mariners have surged into contention.

Acquiring veterans before the July 31 non-waiver deadline seems just as likely as losing them. The offense could use a boost after spending most of the first half of the season as the lowest-scoring unit in the majors.



Erik Bedard, left, and Jarrod Washburn are left-handed reasons the Seattle Mariners are contending in the AL West in what was forecast to be a rebuilding year. With the July 31 trade deadline fast approaching, the Mariners must decide if they're going to be buyers or sellers, with the two lefties at the center of it all.

What does Washburn, who is 6-6 with a 2.96 ERA, expect to happen?

"Hopefully, we keep winning and I'm here," he said before the All-Star break.

"If I end up getting moved it'll probably mean we haven't played good ball these two next weeks and something negative is happening here."

The Mariners know all about



TED S. WARREN/AP

negative. They haven't been to the playoffs since 2001. Last year, they fired general manager Bill Bavasi and manager John McLaren while losing 101 games.

First-time GM Jack Zduriencik and manager Don Wakamatsu arrived for a start-over season. They brought in a new coaching staff, new first baseman, new designated hitter, new closer, new shortstop, new left fielder, new center

fielder — and a new approach: stockpiling young prospects in the minor leagues instead of signing overpriced free agents.

A quick start slogged into a middling May and June. Then came a surge of 16 victories in 25 games, including five victories on a treacherous nine-game trip against the Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox.

The revitalized Mariners are 46-42, four games behind the Angels in the AL West. That's 11 more victories and 14 games better in the standings than they were at this time last year.

It puts Zduriencik in a quandary: buy in the trade market to win now, or sell veterans to restock the farm.

"It's a tough situation," said Wakamatsu, who was in St. Louis on Monday and Tuesday as a coach for the AL in the All-Star game. "I told Jack at the start of the year, 'My job is to put pressure on you.' I think we've done that."

Zduriencik would give you his checking account information and Social Security number before he'd reveal potential moves. All he will say is the overarching goal is to add prospects to the depleted minor league system.

Dealing Washburn or Bedard would likely bring plenty of those.

Like Washburn, Bedard, 30, is left-handed, a valued commodity in a pennant race. But he was out from June 8 until last week

because of inflammation in his pitching shoulder, then struggled to get through 5²/₃ innings against Texas on Sunday.

Bedard is finishing the \$7.75 million contract he signed for this year to avoid arbitration. He has said he wouldn't mind staying and that he isn't thinking about the trade deadline. Last month he claimed he didn't even know when it was.

Wakamatsu has a simple answer for what to do with Bedard, who was obtained last year from Baltimore in exchange for five players and is 5-2 with a sterling 2.63 ERA in 13 starts.

"I'd keep him," he said.

Yet he knows it's complicated. Do the Mariners keep Bedard in an attempt to make the playoffs this fall, then lose him to free agency with the possibility of gaining compensatory draft picks? Can the Mariners count on the brittle Bedard to pitch into the seventh or eighth inning? Will he even qualify statistically as a top-grade, Type-A free agent worthy of those extra draft picks, given his many injuries the past two seasons?

Those answers might come during the next two weeks.

"We talked about creating an environment here," Wakamatsu said. "You heard Washburn say, you heard Bedard say, 'I want to come back.' That's a good feeling for me, when guys want to continue. Not only them, but when it gets around the league, it's healthy for the Seattle Mariners."

Bucs keep losing players, games

By ALAN ROBINSON
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — There's an ageless expression concerning players who don't seem to develop and might need nudging out the door: Get 'em good, or get 'em gone.

The Pittsburgh Pirates, sinking fast once again during what might be a record-setting season of losing, appear to take a different approach. They get 'em good, then they get 'em gone.

The Pirates who begin the traditional second half of the season Friday at home against San Francisco won't be the group that began the season in April, thanks to the unexpected trades of former NL All-Star Nate McLouth and Nyjer Morgan — the third and fourth starting outfielders to be dealt since last July.

Each time, the explanation was the same: The Pirates must upgrade throughout their system, and acquiring good prospects means giving up something in return. That's meant Jason Bay, Xavier Nady, McLouth and Morgan, with NL All-Star infielder Freddy Sanchez, first baseman Adam LaRoche and left-hander Zach Duke possibly to follow by the July 31 trading deadline.

All this swapping hasn't changed much on the field. The Pirates are a season-low 12 games under .500 at 38-50 after losing four in a row and 11 of 14, a record that's even worse than their 44-50 at the break a year ago. There hasn't been much progress during a season that began with primary owner Bob Nutting emphasizing that measurable improvement was needed.

The Pirates' problems, and they are many, are nearly the same as any of the past 16 Pirates teams that finished below .500: Not enough pitching depth, not enough power, not enough of almost everything. The Pirates are 15th (of 16) in the NL in homers, 10th in ERA, 11th in opponents' batting average, 14th in road record (16-33) and 15th in divisional play (12-25 vs. the NL Central).

For every upside, such as Duke's improvement (3.29 ERA, three complete games), there's a downside like Ian Snell's self-imposed demotion to the minors after he went 2-8 with a 5.36 ERA. There's also been more of the peculiar, such as the Houston Astros' Mike Hampton going 4-0 against the Pirates and 1-6 against everybody else.

With McLouth, Bay and Nady gone since a year ago, no out-

fielder has more than the five homers of Garrett Jones, who has been with the club for only 11 games. Rookie center fielder Andrew McCutchen (.292, 2 HRs, 23 RBIs) has been very good since his post-McLouth trade callup, but no right fielder has produced. Brandon Moss has only three homers in 220 at-bats.

"We've got some things to work on," manager John Russell said after the Pirates were swept by Philadelphia in three games last weekend. "We're young, we're growing, guys are starting to develop."

The Pirates' problem has been that every time a player starts to develop, it seems he must be the latest to move on during a seemingly endless cycle of rebuilding.

General manager Neal Huntington and president Frank Coonelly emphasize that patience is necessary because much needed to be fixed. But a Pirates fan who began first grade in 1993 and now, 16 years later, is graduating from college without once seeing a winner probably is short on patience. After all, the Pirates are on the verge of becoming the first major American pro sports team to endure 17 consecutive losing seasons.

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U.S. General Services Administration

Tight races abound entering second half

Contenders want Halladay to tip balance their way

By JAY COHEN

The Associated Press

Roy Halladay got a warm greeting from St. Louis fans during the red-carpet parade for the All-Star Game. They chanted "We want Roy!" as he sat on the back of a vehicle and waved.

Get in line. The Toronto Blue Jays ace is sure to be a popular guy over the next couple weeks.

Halladay's future is the most pressing question as baseball revs up for an intriguing second half, with muddled division races that once again could come down to the final days. Toronto General manager J.P. Ricciardi is listening to offers for the 2003 AL Cy Young Award winner, making the right-hander the biggest chip on the open market ahead of the July 31 non-waiver trade deadline.

Halladay could tip the balance in the AL East if the New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox or Tampa Bay Rays make the best offer, or boost Philadelphia's chances of winning a second consecutive World Series. Contending teams across baseball are salivating at the thought of inserting the ace into their rotation.

"Obviously, I'm somewhere that I enjoy being and have spent my entire career. There's a lot, I think, that goes into it," said Halladay, who would have to agree to any deal. "I think as a player, there's that will to win, that will to do it in October and basically that's what all of this has been about. I would like that chance."

Any number of clubs would like to give him that opportunity,

including each of Toronto's biggest rivals in the East. The Blue Jays' division is still the toughest in baseball, showing off its top-to-bottom strength during the American League's 4-3 victory over the NL on Tuesday night.

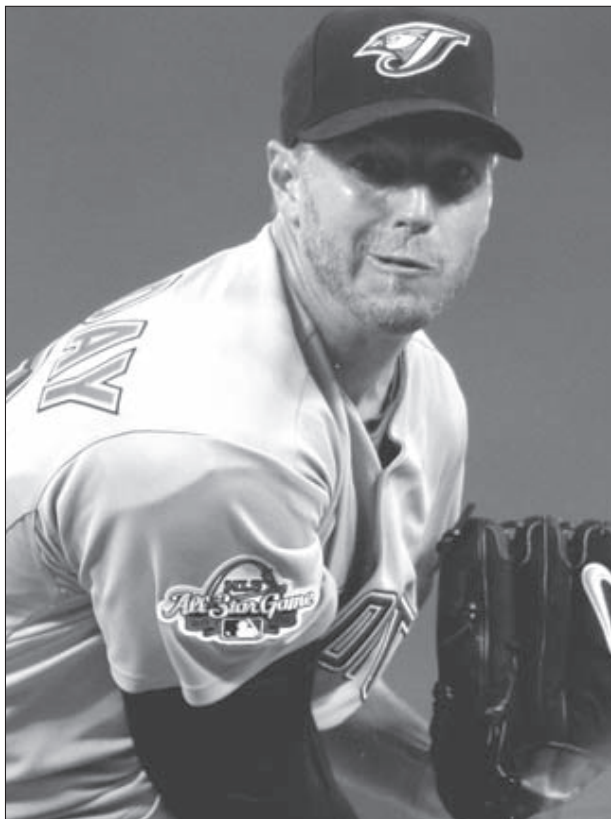
Tampa Bay's Carl Crawford made a highlight-reel catch and won the MVP award. Boston closer Jonathan Papelbon got the decision, and New York's Mariano Rivera finished for his record fourth All-Star save. Even lowly Baltimore got into the act, with Adam Jones hitting a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth inning.

The Blue Jays, who dropped back after a fast start, are talented enough to hurt the division's top teams down the stretch, even if they decide to trade their best pitcher. Boston and New York were tied for the lead heading into the final weekend of the first half, but the Red Sox won three straight against Kansas City and the Yankees were swept by the Los Angeles Angels.

Don't forget about the defending AL champion Rays, either. Tampa Bay was 6½ games back.

"We have a small payroll. We're always going to be underdogs, and I love that," Rays slugger Carlos Pena said. "To know that we haven't played I think up to our full potential, and we're still in the race, is comforting."

The Phillies weren't waiting around to see what the Blue Jays decide to do with Halladay. The NL East leaders agreed to a \$1 million, one-year contract with Pedro Martinez over the All-Star break and are hoping the three-



MORRY GASH/AP

Blue Jays pitcher Roy Halladay likely will play a part in a playoff race as contending teams line up to pry him away from Toronto.

time Cy Young winner can help them down the stretch after a couple of minor-league rehab starts.

"I still feel like this team needs a little help, very little help," Martinez said Wednesday. "I think I can supply a little bit of it. I'm not going

to say all of it, but a little bit of it. That's what we're counting on."

The Phillies have been hurt by injuries to their starting rotation. They already have used nine starters through 86 games, compared with seven all of last season.

San Francisco's loaded rotation was able to stay healthy much of the first half, leading to a renaissance in the Bay Area. Powered by All-Star starter Tim Lincecum and Matt Cain, the Giants were leading the NL wild-card race and seven back of the West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Colorado Rockies, who fired manager Clint Hurdle in May and replaced him with Jim Tracy, won 17 of 18 during one torrid stretch in June and closed the first half with a 27-9 run to get back into contention.

The Dodgers' division lead was the biggest in baseball, with tight races the norm everywhere else. Just five games separate NL Central-leading St. Louis from fifth-place Cincinnati, and the Phillies are 6½ ahead of the fourth-place New York Mets in the East.

"It's kind of a unique year," Houston manager Cecil Cooper said. "There are a lot of teams close and in the hunt. Aside from just our division, everybody's bunched together pretty good."

The division leads of the AL's top teams add up to a paltry eight games. In addition to the tight East, the Angels are 1½ games ahead of Texas in the West and Detroit leads the Chicago White Sox by 3½ games in the Central.

All those cloudy races caught the attention of the nation's first fan during the All-Star break.

"What's been interesting about baseball this year, other than the Dodgers, who've been playing terrific ball, there's a lot of parity," President Barack Obama said. "It means everybody around the country has a little bit of hope for their team."

AP Sports Writers Janie McCauley in San Francisco and Dan Gelston in Philadelphia, and AP Baseball Writer Mike Fitzpatrick in St. Louis contributed to this report.

MLB scoreboard

American League

East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	54	34	.614	—
New York	51	37	.580	3
Tampa Bay	48	41	.539	6½
Toronto	44	46	.489	11
Baltimore	40	48	.455	14
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	49	39	.552	—
Chicago	45	43	.511	3½
Minnesota	45	44	.506	4
Kansas City	37	51	.420	11½
Cleveland	35	54	.393	14
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	49	37	.570	—
Texas	48	39	.552	1½
Seattle	46	42	.523	4
Oakland	37	49	.430	12

National League

East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	48	38	.558	—
Florida	46	44	.511	4
Atlanta	43	45	.489	6
New York	42	45	.483	6½
Washington	26	61	.299	22½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	49	42	.538	—
Milwaukee	45	43	.511	2½
Houston	44	44	.500	3½
Chicago	43	43	.500	3½
Cincinnati	42	45	.483	5
Pittsburgh	38	50	.432	9½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	56	32	.636	—
San Francisco	49	39	.557	7
Colorado	47	41	.534	9
Arizona	38	51	.427	18½
San Diego	36	52	.409	20

Tuesday's game
AL All-Stars 4, NL All-Stars 3

Wednesday's game
No games scheduled

Thursday's games
Seattle at Cleveland
L.A. Angels at Oakland

Friday's games
Detroit (French 1-0) at N.Y. Yankees (A. Burnett 8-4)
Seattle (F. Hernandez 9-3) at Cleveland (D. Huff 4-3)
Boston (Buchholz 0-0) at Toronto (R. Romero 7-3)
Minnesota (Perkins 4-5) at Texas (Padilla 7-4)
Tampa Bay (J. Shields 6-6) at Kansas City (Greinke 10-5)
Baltimore (Berken 1-6) at Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 9-3)
L.A. Angels (Saunders 8-5) at Oakland (Cahill 5-8)

Saturday's games
Detroit at N.Y. Yankees
Boston at Toronto
Baltimore at Chi. White Sox
L.A. Angels at Oakland
Seattle at Cleveland
Tampa Bay at Kansas City
Minnesota at Texas

Thursday's games
Chicago Cubs at Washington
Milwaukee at Cincinnati
N.Y. Mets at Atlanta
Philadelphia at Florida
Colorado at San Diego
Houston at L.A. Dodgers

Friday's games
Chicago (Zambrano 5-4) at Washington (Olsen 2-4)
San Francisco (Zito 5-9) at Pittsburgh (Maholm 6-4)
Milwaukee (Suppan 5-6) at Cincinnati (Arroyo 9-8)
Philadelphia (Hamels 5-5) at Florida (Nolasco 6-7)
N.Y. Mets (Pelfrey 7-4) at Atlanta (Jurjens 7-7)
Arizona (Garland 5-8) at St. Louis (C. Carpenter 7-3)
Colorado (Jimenez 6-9) at San Diego (Geer 1-4)
Houston (Oswalt 5-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Billingsley 9-4)

Saturday's games
N.Y. Mets at Atlanta
San Francisco at Pittsburgh
Chi. Cubs at Washington
Philadelphia at Florida
Milwaukee at Cincinnati
Arizona at St. Louis
Colorado at San Diego
Houston at L.A. Dodgers



MATT ROURKE/AP

The Philadelphia Phillies hope that three-time Cy Young Award winner Pedro Martinez can help them get back to the World Series. Martinez agreed to a \$1 million, one-year contract on Wednesday.

Sports briefs

Gatti's wife says she's innocent in a letter written from jail cell

The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Arturo Gatti's wife, accused of strangling the former boxing champion with her purse strap, proclaimed her innocence and love for her dead husband in a letter given to The Associated Press on Wednesday.

Although declining to be interviewed from her jail cell in the northeastern Brazil city of Recife, Amanda Rodrigues handed over a letter written in red ink.

"This is a pain that has become inexplicable and intolerable, this loss and this malicious accusation," Rodrigues wrote. "I lost my husband!"

Rodrigues, 23, told investigators she awoke about 6 a.m. Saturday to find her husband's body in the apartment they rented in Porto de Galinhas, a seaside resort in Pernambuco state. She then called police.

Investigators said she was the only suspect and they are certain she killed Gatti in the apartment where they and their 10-month-old son arrived for a second honeymoon last week. The boy was unhurt and was in the care of Rodrigues' family.

"I'm innocent and I know that this will be proven in a few days," Rodrigues wrote.

But those who knew Gatti and Rodrigues in the United States and Canada have said their relationship was rocky at best. "She was yelling all the time, they were always fighting and she'd say, 'I'm going to kill you!' when they fought," Gatti's mother, Ida, told the AP by phone from Montreal.

According to records at the Court of Quebec's criminal and penal division, Gatti was charged April 16 for violating a restraining order that had been filed against him. The records didn't indicate who filed the restraining order, but Gatti's mother confirmed that it was Rodrigues who had taken one out against him. She offered no other details.

"The people most important to my life, who know us, know the size of our love," she wrote. "What hurts me is knowing the suffering of my family and friends. What hurts me is to know that my husband will not be in my house waiting for my return."

Report: Ex-gym owner subpoenaed in Clemens case

NEW YORK — The Daily News in New York reports that a former gym owner in the Houston area has been issued a subpoena by the Washington grand jury investigating whether Roger Clemens lied to Congress about using performance-enhancing drugs.

The Daily News cited unidentified sources saying that Kelly Blair received the subpoena Monday ordering him to appear before the grand jury.

The Daily News also reported Blair told friends that several others associated with the gym, which was linked to the distribution of performance-enhancing drugs, have received subpoenas.

Trainer Brian McNamee has told Congress and federal inves-

tigators he injected Clemens with performance-enhancing drugs from 1998 to 2001 or 2002. Clemens has denied those claims.

One of McNamee's attorneys, Richard Emery, said he believes the subpoenas issued to Blair and his associates indicate the Justice Department has gone beyond McNamee's claims as it investigates Clemens.

QB Harrell signs with Saskatchewan of CFL

REGINA, Saskatchewan — Record-setting quarterback Graham Harrell of Texas Tech signed a contract with the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the Canadian Football League on Thursday.

Harrell, the NCAA Division I career leader in touchdown passes, wasn't drafted in the NFL. His workout with the Cleveland Browns did not result in a contract.

Harrell had to fight the perception that his numbers were the product of Texas Tech's offensive system and he didn't have the arm strength to succeed in the NFL.

The Roughriders are two games into their season and have three quarterbacks on their roster. Their starter is former North Carolina quarterback Darian Durant, who had only four career CFL starts coming into the season.

Japan defeats U.S. in college baseball

TOKYO — Japan took advantage of two errors in the bottom of the 11th inning to defeat the United States 8-7 in the deciding fifth game of the college baseball championship series Thursday.

Shuta Koike walked and advanced to third on a throwing error by pitcher Sonny Gray. Masayoshi Kato then hit a grounder to shortstop Christian Colon, whose error allowed Koike to score the winning run.

The Americans took a 7-4 lead with three runs in the top of the ninth, but the Japanese team scored three in the bottom of the inning to send the game into extra innings.

Yusuke Nomura picked up the victory after holding the Americans scoreless over the final two innings. Gray was the loser.

Summer Bird to race against Rachel Alexandra

OCEANPORT, N.J. — Trainer Tim Ice is looking forward to sending his Belmont Stakes winner Summer Bird against Preakness winner Rachel Alexandra in next month's Haskell Invitational.

"I'm certainly not going to run away and look for another spot because the filly's coming," Ice said Wednesday. "If we beat her, then Summer Bird is the best 3-year-old. If she beats us, well, she was supposed to win."

Rachel Alexandra was the first filly in 85 years to win the Preakness, and in her second race against the boys she will attempt to become the second filly — the first since Serena's Song in 1995

— to win the Haskell at Monmouth Park on Aug. 2.

In addition to the winners of two of the three Triple Crown races, the field could include Arkansas Derby winner Papa Clem, Tom Fool Handicap winner Munnings and stakes winners Atomic Rain, Big Drama, Bunker Hill and Duke of Mischief.

Also:

■ Rick Dutrow, trainer of last year's Kentucky Derby winner Big Brown, appealed a 30-day suspension by the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission for violating doping rules.

Frenchman says he's running for presidency of FIA

PARIS — Former Ferrari team principal Jean Todt joined the race to succeed Max Mosley as president of Formula One's governing body.

Todt, 63, announced his candidacy Thursday, a day after Mosley backed the Frenchman to lead the FIA as he announced he would not seek a fifth term in October. Todt is the second candidate to step forward after former world rally champion Ari Vatanen announced his candidacy last week.

Todt has been involved in motorsport since 1966 and led Ferrari to five consecutive championships between 2000-04.

U.S. alpine skier critical after fall

PARK CITY, Utah — U.S. alpine skier Cody Marshall suffered a head injury after falling between 20 to 30 feet from an escalator.

U.S. Ski Team spokesman Tom Kelly said Marshall, 26, was out with teammates when he fell off an escalator rail about 12 a.m. Thursday in a mini-mall in downtown Park City, Utah.

He was taken by ambulance to University Hospital in Salt Lake City, where he was listed in critical condition Thursday afternoon.

Marshall, from Pittsfield, Vt., finished third in the slalom in the U.S. Alpine Championships this spring.

His sister, Chelsea, is also a member of the U.S. alpine team, and his older brother, Jesse, is a former member.

Texas baseball coach gets four days in jail

DALLAS — Texas baseball coach Augie Garrido was sentenced Thursday to four days in jail for a drunken-driving conviction, though he might not serve any time.

Garrido's attorney, Michael Burnett, said Travis County jail officials will decide how long to keep the winningest coach in Division I after he reports sometime before Aug. 15. Burnett said Garrido, 70, received two days' credit when he was arrested and could earn the other two days by getting processed.

Sheriff's spokesman Roger Wade said any comment on how long Garrido will stay is "pure speculation."



CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

Lance Armstrong, who overcame a flat tire, wipes sweat from his forehead during the 12th stage of the Tour de France on Thursday.

Tour de France

Armstrong forced to scramble after a punctured tire

American still third overall; Dane easily captures 12th stage

By JEROME PUGMIRE
The Associated Press

VITTEL, France — Lance Armstrong remained in third place in the Tour de France on Thursday, scrambling back to the main pack following a punctured tire with about 37 miles left.

Teammate and rival Alberto Contador of Spain stayed in second place and Rinaldo Nencinini of Italy kept the yellow jersey on a day Nicki Sorensen of Denmark won the 12th stage. Sorensen broke away and finished 48 seconds ahead of Laurent Lefevre of France, the first time he has won a stage in the Tour.

"We let the breakaway go after four minutes," Nencinini said. "It's a tough stage tomorrow, but I'm already really happy and I will do my best to keep the yellow jersey."

Armstrong, the seven-time champion, rejoined the main pack after his mishap during the 131-mile ride from Tonnerre to Vittel. He pulled over to the side of the road while his team repaired a punctured back tire. After a few moments, four teammates helped him catch up.

Armstrong is taking a cautious approach until the three-week race reaches the Alps on Sunday. He said the flat stages were nerve-racking. "It is stressful with the crashes, on a stage like this where you have nothing to gain and then you lose everything because of a crash or a split in the group," the Texan, 37, said before the start. "You have to pay attention and try to avoid a crash."

Wednesday's stage was marred by several crashes and 19 riders were slightly injured.

"Yesterday, there was no way to avoid that crash, if you were just behind it, you were going down," Armstrong said. "So that is something which keeps you up at night. You have to constantly pay attention. I try to give myself a bit of space from people in front of me so I have a bit of time to brake."

Riders also learned that an earpiece ban scheduled for Friday's stage was overturned, allowing them to communicate by radio with team cars as usual. The ban was in place Tuesday and another was set for the 13th stage before the International Cycling Union reversed itself.

Many riders and team directors called the ban dangerous. Organizers hoped the experiment would inject drama into the race by having riders fend for themselves.

Sorensen was part of a lead group arriving several minutes in front of the main pack. The group was unchallenged and the chasing pack, including Nencinini, Contador and Armstrong, was nearly six minutes back.

Seven riders managed to get away after about 40 miles, including Egoi Martinez, Franco Pellizotti, Remi Pauriol, Sylvain Calzati and Markus Fother.

The main pack let the breakaway go, with Mark Cavendish's Team Columbia-Highroad teammates not chasing. Cavendish has been the best sprinter in the Tour with four stage victories, including Tuesday and Wednesday.

Calzati and Sorensen worked together to build a lead of 15 seconds with about six miles remaining, but Sorensen attacked with just more than a mile to go and the others could not follow.

SPORTS



Mayfield, NASCAR going
another lap: Driver disputes
second positive test, Page 25

BRITISH OPEN

'Mechanic' drains Turnberry

66-foot birdie putt on final hole gives Spaniard an opening 64 and a stroke lead over Watson, Curtis; Tiger at 71

By PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

TURNBERRY, Scotland — Miguel Angel Jimenez rolled in a 66-foot birdie putt on the final hole for a 6-under 64 to claim the opening-round lead in the British Open on Thursday.

The pony-tailed Spaniard known as "The Mechanic" birdied the final two holes in a bogey-free round that knocked Tom Watson and Ben Curtis out of the top spot on the leaderboard on a calm day at Turnberry.

"You look at the sea, and it looked like a pond — so nice, so calm," Jimenez said. "You can't ask for a better day. No wind, no nothing, and it took care of me."

Jimenez, 45, beat his previous low score in the Open by three strokes and just missed the record for a major championship.

Watson, 59, a five-time winner of the claret jug, held the lead for most of the day after a 65.

His score was matched by Ben Curtis, the surprise winner of the 2003 Open, and Japanese Tour regular Kenichi Kuboya, who surged into contention with a birdie-birdie-eagle-birdie finish after most of the fans had headed for the pubs.

Tiger Woods struggled to a 71.

On a day for going low, the world's No. 1 player struggled, hitting one wayward shot after another, including a dunk in Wilson's Burn that led to the last of his four bogeys at No. 16.

When the round ended, Woods headed to the range to work on his swing, which looked downright ugly with his right hand flying off the club.

His first signs of frustration emerged at No. 3, when he took an angry swipe and mumbled something under his breath. By the time the day was done, he had angrily tossed away his clubs several times.

Woods' score was especially disappointing given the conditions at Turnberry: partly sunny, no rain and barely the hint of a breeze off the Irish Sea.

"I certainly made a few mistakes out there," Woods said. "Realistically, I probably should have shot about 1- or 2-under par."

Thirty-two years after his epic "Duel in the Sun" with Jack Nicklaus, Watson took advantage of the pristine conditions at Turnberry.

"Not bad for an almost 60-year-old," said Watson, who turns 60 in September. "Obviously I enjoyed it. I played very well, kept the ball in play, made a few putts. The



LYNNE CAMERON/AP

Tiger Woods throws his club after playing a shot on the 10th hole during the first round of the British Open on Thursday. Woods seemed disgusted at several points during his round. He finished with a 1-over 71 on a day many players posted scores in the 60s.

course was defenseless today. As a result, you're seeing a lot of scores under par. I suspect by the end of the day, 65 will not be in the lead."

Nicklaus played his final British Open at St. Andrews in 2005 and faded into retirement. But the guy who beat him at Turnberry in '77 still has a few shots left.

Watson kept the ball in the fairway, rolled in five birdie putts and bailed himself out the few times he got into trouble, including a testy 6-footer on the final hole to preserve a bogey-free round.

"I think there was some spirituality out there today," Watson said. "Just the serenity of it was pretty neat."

Six years ago, Curtis was virtually unknown except to family and friends when he won the claret jug on his first attempt. He missed the cut on his next three at-



ALASTAIR GRANT/AP

Tom Watson gestures to the crowd after finishing on the 18th during the opening round of the British Open at Turnberry on Thursday. Watson, 59, a five-time Open champion, posted a stunning 5-under 65, his lowest score since 1994.

tempts, but has finished in the top 10 in the Open the past two years.

Now, he's confident of making a run at another Open championship.

"You don't win it once and not be able to do it again," he said.

"The last couple of years have been good

for me, and this week I got off to a good start."

Curtis overcame a pair of bogeys with an eagle at the par-5 seventh and birdies on four of his last six holes. He finished with a routine two-putt par at No. 18, walking off

SEE OPEN ON PAGE 28

Jays' Halladay might hold key to MLB's second half Page 30

